

DECEMBER
2003

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THE
HIGHLANDS

THE HIGHLANDS COMMUNICATOR

Vol. 3, Issue 3

Watch
for our
special
Christmas
Edition
coming
in Dec.

FREE

HALIBURTON COUNTY'S GOOD NEWS ONLY FUN FREE NEWSPAPER



If you missed Santa at either the Minden or Haliburton parades, he's coming to Wilberforce on December 14th. See inside for details...



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Canadian homeowners who successfully increase the energy efficiency of their houses will receive a helping hand from the Government of Canada. The Honourable Herb Dhaliwal, Minister of Natural Resources Canada (NRCan), today announced that grant applications for the EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Incentive are now being accepted. Under this initiative, the average incentive to Canadians who make qualified energy-efficiency improvements to their homes is expected to be about \$1,000.

Homeowners To Receive "Helping Hand" To Increase the Energy Efficiency of Their Homes

"In the Climate Change Plan for Canada, we've asked Canadians to take the One Tonne Challenge – reduce their personal greenhouse gas emissions by one tonne," said Minister Dhaliwal. "A key way to achieve this goal is by cutting the energy we use in heating and lighting our homes. This program will help Canadians make efficiency improvements, decrease their own energy bills and do their part in responding to climate change."

More than \$73 million is being invested in the EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Incentive, a three-year program that is operated by NRCan's Office of Energy Efficiency. It will encourage homeowners, particularly those with less energy-efficient older homes, to reduce energy use in two ways.

First, the Government of Canada, through EnerGuide for Houses, will share the cost of home energy evaluations that will recommend to homeowner energy-efficiency improvements. The evaluation can cost between \$225 and \$325, but NRCan partially subsidizes the cost by \$150 per house. Second, grants will be provided, through the EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Incentive, once homeowners must have an EnerGuide for Houses evaluation of their home done before and after making energy-efficiency improvements. The amount of the grant will depend on the difference between the EnerGuide for Houses rating before retrofits and after they are done. The greater the improvement in a home's energy efficiency rating, the greater the grant will be. Homeowners have 18 months after the first evaluation is done to have the retrofits completed, the second evaluation done and apply for the incentive.

"When it comes to climate change, we all have a role to play – individuals, governments and industry," said Minister Dhaliwal. "I'm proud that this initiative will give Canadians some of the tools and information they need to take on the One Tonne Challenge. I'm equally proud that it demonstrates the Government of Canada's commitment to support Canadians who want to join our efforts by taking action now."

The EnerGuide for Houses Retrofit Incentive and the One Tonne Challenge are part of the Climate Change Plan for Canada that was released in November 2002. These initiatives advance the Government of Canada's commitment to the sustainable development of our natural resources – contributing to their economic importance and to a strong society and communities through knowledge, innovation, technology and international leadership. By integrating our economic, social and environmental goals, we can ensure our quality of life and rebuild the Canada we want, for ourselves and for future generations.

Funding for these activities was outlined in the details of \$1 billion worth of programs and initiatives announced by Prime Minister Jean Chretien on August 12, 2003.

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'My Size' Re-Opens In Minden

Fourteen years ago there was a women's clothing store in Minden called 'My Size'. Now, fourteen years later, Shirley Kuni and her daughter, Kim Russell has re-opened the popular shop at the Village Green behind CIBC.

"The comments have been really favourable," says Shirley. The store has only been opened for a few days and already many old and new customers have discovered this jewel in Minden. My Size Ladies' Clothing carries women's sizes 8-28 and carries a great selection of skirts, shirts, pants and coats from casual to dressy. You can also find funky jewelry, boots, gloves, hats, accessories and even a little lingerie.

Shirley says, "We're focused on keeping 80% of items in the store under \$50 per piece so it's nice and affordable."

My Size also is carrying some fine silver jewelry by Wildwood Studio, locally made vests, quilts and some locally made Christmas items.

My Size was formerly opened by Shirley in 1986 and remained open until 1989. Due to illness, the store closed. In the spring of this year, Shirley and Kim began thinking of re-opening again. "Kim's 6 year-old twins are now in school and she really wanted something to do," says Shirley.

The store celebrated their grand opening on November 29th and has had great feedback.

"We're surprised, humbled and totally pleased at the same time at the awesome responses of everyone to the re-opening of our unique store," states Shirley.

Past customers have brought gifts and one lady came in, opened her coat and revealed a shirt she purchased 14 years ago from the original store.

Happy to be opened, Shirley and Kim invite all to see the

newly opened shop in Minden. The store is open 9-5 Monday - Saturday. To reach Kim or Shirley, call 286-4260.



(Pictured above) The mom & daughter team of Shirley (mom) & Kim (daughter) are partners in the re-opening of 'My Size' clothing store located in Minden. Be sure to stop in and say Hi!!

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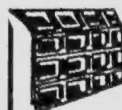
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Home Support Treasure Table Welcomes Your Donations

If you are looking to make room for all the new things you have coming for Christmas, and would like to help out a worthy cause, why not donate those items you don't want anymore to the Haliburton County Home Support Treasure Table.

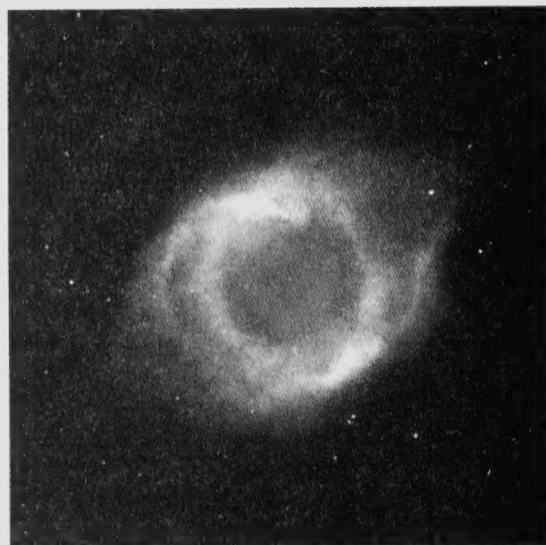
The Treasure Table is located at the main office in Halco Plaza in Haliburton. It is on going, and people are welcome to drop in to bring additions to the table, or if you want, come check the table out for something to buy!! There's a "Treasure" awaiting you.

For more information you can call Home Support at 457-2941, or drop in the office which is open Monday - Friday from 9 - 5.



COOL PIC OF THE MONTH

Eye of God



This is a picture taken by NASA with the Hubble telescope. They are referring to it as the "Eye of God". I thought it was beautiful and worth sharing.

Comments: This is indeed an authentic photograph — or rather, composite of photos — taken by NASA's Hubble Space Telescope and the Kitt Peak National Observatory in Arizona. It was featured on NASA's Website as an Astronomy Picture of the Day in May 2003 and thereafter posted on a number of Websites under the title "The Eye of God"

The image actually depicts the so-called Helix Nebula, described by astronomers as "a trillion-mile-long tunnel of glowing gases." At its center is dying, Sun-like star which has ejected masses of dust and gas to form tentacle-like filaments stretching toward an outer rim composed of the same material. The Sun itself may look like this in several billion years.

Thinking Digital?

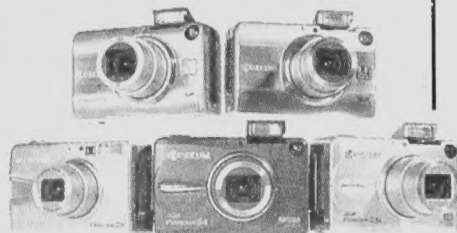
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Brett Irvine - "The Big Cheese"

Publisher, Editor, Reporter/Photo, Layout:

Joanne Welsh - "The Happy Cracker"

705 448-1847

Fax:

448-1995



The Highlands Communicator:

Mailing Address: Box 332 Wilberforce, Ont. K0L 3C0

email: highlands@thecomunicator.ca or jmwbc@direcway.com

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Huge Victorian Jubilee Plans Underway For Minden

If all goes as planned, next Victoria Day Weekend will have a new addition in the Town of Minden. The Minden Museum Committee recently shared a plan to recreate the 1897 Jubilee of Queen Victoria at various locations in the town. The event will take place on May 23, 2004 and would bring alive the historic event for a day. It will include stories, dance, costumes and sport from the Victorian Era including tug-a-war, races, tosses, bands, choirs, buskers, jugglers, a BBQ and much more.

Thirty people attended a community-planning meeting for the event on November 29th with representatives from service clubs, volunteer firefighters, churches, genealogical groups, Timbersport and children's organizations who discussed plans to participate in the event.

This would definitely be a cool event and one not to miss in Minden next year.

Anyone interested in becoming part of the event can contact Michael Fay at 286-3668 or Carol Simmons at 286-3588 for more information.

To give you an idea of the type of plans in the works, check out the following proposed schedule of events:

11:00 a.m. - Participating Churches invite their congregations to the Jubilee

12:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. - Picnic lunch on the Museum Grounds •Entertainment by buskers, chalk artists, and

puppeteers

2:00 - 2:30 - •Arrival of Queen Victoria escorted by Mr. Brown, Sir Wilfred Laurier, Sanford Fleming, and Mary Yates, the Queen's maid.

•Her Majesty reads her Jubilee Address and invites everyone to story telling and Tea, Games, or Music.

2:30 - 5:00 - •Tea and Story telling, with the Queen, including Tarts and Fancies. •Games, with Mr. Brown, including Tug-of-War, Races, Tosses, and Lifts •Music, with the

Prime Minister, including Bands, Choirs, and Barbershop
2:30 - 5:00 - •Roving entertainment by Medicine Man and Show •Buskers, Newsboys, Jugglers •Period Vendors, "Under the Tent."

5:30 - 7:00 - •Barbecue on Museum Grounds

7:30 - 11:00 - •Barn Dance with Live Music on Museum Grounds



The Minden Museum Committee Members

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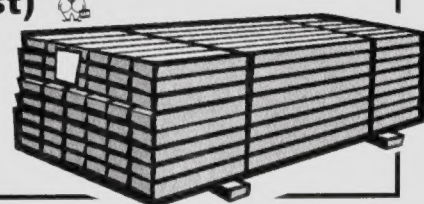
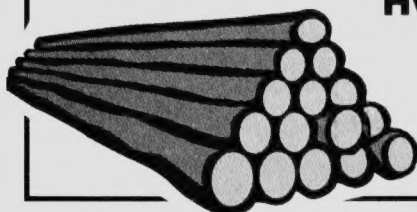
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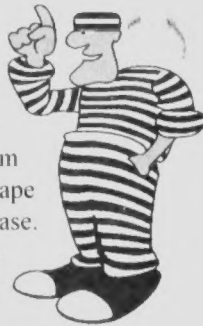
705-457-3211

fax 705-457-3058



Dumb Criminals

I'll Help You Officer... Victoria, B.C., Canada, police Const. Graeme LeBlanc was investigating car break-ins at an apartment complex when a 25-year-old man invited him into his apartment to see a video tape of "evidence" to help solve the case. The apartment "smelled of fresh marijuana and he had been recently smoking it," LeBlanc said.



Officers returned with a search warrant and found \$100,000 worth of marijuana, hashish, magic mushrooms and other drugs, cash, growing equipment, and other paraphernalia. Why did the man invite him in? "I think that because he had been around the marijuana for so long his senses were just used to the smell of it," LeBlanc says, "whereas when I walked in I was almost overwhelmed by the smell." And the video tape? It was, oddly enough, of no evidentiary value.

I don't know about anybody else, but... can you really believe that Christmas is just around the corner?

What happened to Summer???? I think

I missed it... again!!

Well, Christmas is close - so once again we remind you...

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Well - We Got The Bug... Or At Least It Got Us...

Life Sentences For Virus Writers... That's What I Say!!

Upgrading your computer equipment is a wonderful thing, but sometimes it leaves you open to some nasty bugs... Let me explain. We decided to upgrade to XP Pro from XP to coincide with the purchase of some high tech computer equipment to make our job a little easier here at the Communicator.

There's a nasty virus out there, and the install of the new XP Pro left us vulnerable for long enough that the nasty virus hit before we had a chance to install the patches needed to avoid the virus.

What's my point? Well, as much as I saved just about all I could, I did lose any emails that were sent to me prior to the last couple weeks. If you did not receive a response or if you have sent something over the past month or so, it probably got lost due to the virus. In addition to some emails, I had a joke file containing some great material submitted by readers, particularly Michelle and Larry (you know who you are), so feel free to send any and all you have once again.

Again, we apologize if your email got lost in the shuffle. Please resubmit as all is well now on the high tech front at the Communicator.

As an added note: I don't know about you, but I'm all for capital punishment to those who write these darn viruses!! At least life in prison with NO CHANCE OF PAROL.... EVER!! (You'd say the same after what I went through to clean my computer systems... and if you have been there, you know what I mean!!). To all you brilliant computer geeks who write these.. why not invent something useful and become the next Bill Gates, instead of writing viruses that get you no where in life - (or are you not smart enough!!) Think about it!!

Minden Christmas Craft Sale

Here's a great way to get into the Christmas spirit and get some shopping done at the same time. It's the 5th Annual Christmas Craft Sale in the Minden Arena on Saturday, December 6th from 9-5 and again on Sunday from 10-4.

There's sure to be something for everyone on your list. This year promises to be the best with lots of new vendors. See brand new items, local crafts and more.

There is no cost to come in. Donations to the food drive would be greatly appreciated.

For further details contact Donna McKnight at 754-9957.

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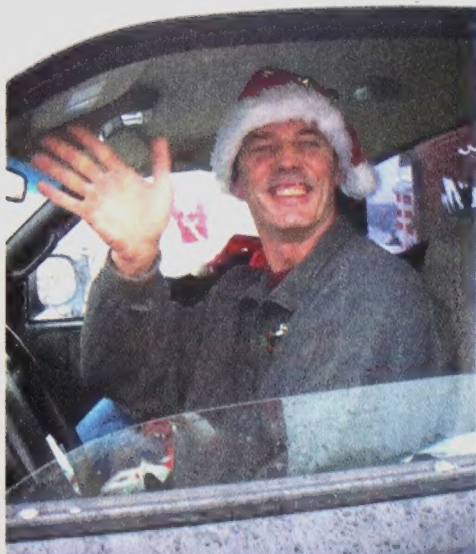
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Top left: Steve Stata was in the Christmas spirit; Above: The gang representing the Haliburton Forest Float; Far Left: Haliburton IGA float was very colourful - a definite highlight of the parade; At Left: music was flowing from the Teen Mission Float; Bottom Left: Mini ponies were adored by all; Bottom middle: Karen from McKeeks kept tummies warm with hot chocolate; Below: Tin Soldiers gave the parade some added colour.



Photos by Joanne

Opposite page:
From riding with wolves, to colourful gifts, the Moose FM float, visits from exchange students, and the sounds of the Highland Flutes, the parade was a huge success filled with a variety of sights & sounds.
Congratulations to all who made this year's parade so terrific!!





Haliburton



Santa Claus Parade 2003

watch for
more pics
in our
Christmas
edition



By the looks on the faces of all these parade participants, you can clearly see that this year's Santa Claus Parade in Haliburton was one not to miss.

The feeling was equally shared by those who attended the Santa Claus Parade in Minden the day before the Haliburton Parade.

In all, when it comes to Santa Claus Parades, it brings out the kid in all of us!!

Meet Jonathan Hall...

Born in Cheshire England in 1967, Jon immigrated to Canada in 1980. He is married, with three children, Matthew, Alisha and Natasha.

Jon started out in the auto business in 1987 and has worked for General Motors, Ford Motor Company, and Daimler Chrysler, Dodge, Jeep.

"I started my career at Boyer Pontiac Buick GMC in Pickering where the competition is fierce, so I know how important it is to be price competitive. I believe that just because we live in the country, we shouldn't have to pay more than anywhere else."

"It's nice to work in my home town and it's important to support our local businesses, and I can compete with city prices."



Now certified in automotive law, ethics, finance and insurance, when you come to see Jon, you won't have to wait for him to see the manager, or wait to

get your trade appraised. "I do it all myself."

Jon spent the last 10 months at a Chrysler Dealer in Minden and sold approx. 90 cars and trucks due to his experience, good advice and no hassle - no pressure approach.

"I welcome you to shop around and compare and when your homework is done, feel free to call me to see what I can offer - even if it is just good advice."

For any information on purchase, lease, new, used or just good advice, Call Jonathan Hall at Elstone Motors 457-2011, or stop in and see him in person ...we're located on Hwy 118, West of Haliburton.

Plus look for his new & used vehicle buying guide soon to be published in 2004.

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CLASSICS - ANTIQUES & HOT RODS

Here's a beauty that will make you wish it was summer again. (Aren't we nasty... showing such summer-like pictures after the snowfall we've had?)



Original Owners Still Take Pride in This Baby!!

Well, now that the snow is on the ground, and the weather is cold, you definitely won't see this car buzzing around the streets. But if you do next summer, it will be sure to turn your head.

This car is a 1963 Triumph TR-4, owned by Karen and Don Dunsmore who cottage in the Highlands where Karen was born and raised.. It was purchased new in 1963 from Carling Motors in Ottawa by the Dunsmore's for \$3,200, including the optional extra cost lap seat belts.

The engine is a 2,138 CC (130 cubic inch) 4 cylinder standard engine, fitted with SU Carburetors.

The engine develops 100 BHP at 4600 RPM. The transmission is a 4-speed manual, connected to an electrically shifted overdrive unit.

When you see this candy apple red convertible coming, you'll surely know it!!

(I'm jealous Karen and Don!!)



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Auto Briefs:

In the early 20th century a world market for only 4 million automobiles was made because "the world would run out of chauffeurs." Shortly after the end of World War II (1945), the whole of Volkswagen, factory and patents, was offered free to Henry Ford II. He dismissed the Volkswagen Beetle as a bad design. Today, more than 70 million motorcars are produced *every year*. The Beetle became one of the best-selling vehicles of all time.

Automobiles built before 1904 are called *veteran cars*; those built between 1904 and 1931 are considered *vintage*, while cars that are at least 20 years old are called *classic*.

Irish scientist, Dr. Dionysius Lardner (1793 - 1859) didn't believe that trains could contribute much in speedy transport. He wrote: "Rail travel at high speed is not possible, because passengers 'would die of asphyxia' [suffocation]." Today, trains reach speeds of 500 km/h.

?

Shouldn't it be
called a "near-hit"



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Archie Gets His License!!

You Can Too!!

Look up in the sky! It's a bird, it's a plane, it's Archie Dobbins and he's flying a plane!!

Why is he flying a plane? Because he can now that he's successfully graduated from 1st Class Flight Training School, based locally out of the Stanhope Airport. Archie now has his pilots license.



Archie (left) with instructor Marty

Haliburton resident, Archie Dobbins, owner of Highlands Satellite, enrolled in the spring of this year in the Fast Track programme of the flight school, and in mid September, received his license to fly any single engine non-high performance plane, and he is allowed up to 3 passengers. He is also entitled to rent a plane in Canada in his class and take tours.

"I was recently in Moncton and rented a plane to fly over the Bay of Fundy, and around Nova Scotia. It was great," says Archie. When asked if he was nervous during his first solo flight away from home, Archie stated, "no... I wasn't nervous because it's Marty's job to make sure I'm not nervous that I know enough to keep control, fly, and land the plane safely."

How long does it take to get your license? The quickest way is the way Archie did it, through the intense fast track course. This method requires a minimum of 45 hours in the air, but as flight instructor Marty Slezak points out, "on average, someone really needs roughly 60 - 80 hours before they have all the experience they need. 45 hours is the bare minimum, but really, you have to do it until you are completely comfortable and knowledgeable."

So what made Archie decide to get his pilots license? "I've always wanted to fly a plane since I was 8 years old when I lived in Shearwater, Halifax. There was a military air base nearby and I'd see planes flying overhead all the time," he explains. "I've flown with other people a few times. When a friend, John Packard, told me there was a flight school coming to Stanhope, I decided to go for it. Turning 50 I felt if I don't do it now, I never will."

Marty says, "We opened the school on April 1st of this year, and Archie was the first one there, ready to go."

Archie began his training with ground school. "Sometimes we were in the class from morning till midnight for about 30 days, and we'd be up flying about every other day, as long as the weather was good," says Archie.

With the course, you can go at your own pace. The more frequent you attend, the quicker you get your license. It is really up to you.

Archie cont'd... pg 13...

"It's The Most Unnatural Feeling At First... But One You Get It, It's As Natural As Riding A Bike..."

...from pg. 12

So, what about flying now that winter is here? According to Marty & Archie, the planes actually perform better in the colder weather, and the runways are ploughed, so winter is not an obstacle.

I asked Archie how he felt about flying a plane at first, and he had this to say... "It's the most unnatural feeling at first. Once you get used to flying, it seems as natural as riding a bicycle or driving a car."

He says the hardest part of all is landing the plane. "That took quite a few tries. It definitely is the hardest part of flying. But once you get it, it's not so bad."

What's nice about our local flying club is that the lessons involve bush training, where students learn to avoid obstacles such as trees, and learn to land in grassy fields. These skills could come in handy in an emergency situation, and not every school has access to these conditions during training. Students must also put the plane into a spin and learn to regain control. Our conditions that surround the school are such that the graduate has learned extensive skills that if ever needed, he or she will be glad they mastered them.

"It also makes it so much easier when you go to a bigger airport. I went to Oshawa and their runway is way longer - no wind shears, it was a piece of cake compared to ours. When you learn in tougher conditions, it just makes you all the better.



me that if he'd had a coffee in his hand, he wouldn't have spilled a drop, and whatever those guys are teaching you in Ontario, they're doing very well."

Of course Archie is furthering his education in flight to progress to night flying, and then onward to his IFR, which allows him to navigate a plane via the instruments only. "Then you can get above the clouds and still know where you're going. It's like playing a huge video game," he says.

To achieve his next goal, he will require another 40 hours minimum of flight training. He also is setting his sights on purchasing his own plane.

Archie & Marty would like to encourage more people to check out the "Pilot for a day" opportunity. If you would like the experience of flying, even if for only once in your life, this gives you the chance to get up there and give it a try. If you like it, you might want to continue on like Archie did.



Cessna 172

Archie feels this is a great opportunity for students, because you only have to be 14 to fly with an instructor and by 16 you can get your pilots licence. "It would be great for high school kids to learn, and it could possibly lead to a wonderful career for them. And you don't have to go far to learn. It's right here in the Highlands."

What has flying done for Archie?... "It's given me freedom. It's about the freedom. What a great feeling it is being up there."

Congrats Archie, and we'll be watching for you in the skies above Haliburton!!

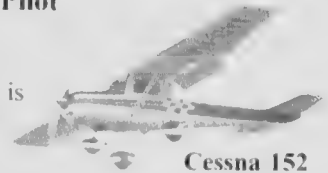
Local Flight School Now Adds Second Plane To Inventory!!

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1st Class Flight Training is pleased to announce that they now have two planes at their flight school located at the Stanhope Airport. In addition to their 172 M Model Cessna, they now have a Cessna 152.

If you want to give flying a try - why not check out their 'pilot for a day' program which offers you the chance to get up in the sky and actually fly the plane. What an experience!

If you require more information or would like to book your 'pilot for a day' experience, contact Marty Slezak at 754-4546.



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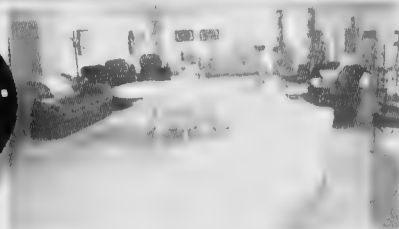
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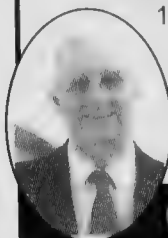
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Urban Legends

The Angry Cat

Cat Lovers: This is a RIOT!!

You may be looking at the photos and wondering what happened here. The following is the answer – according to urban legend:



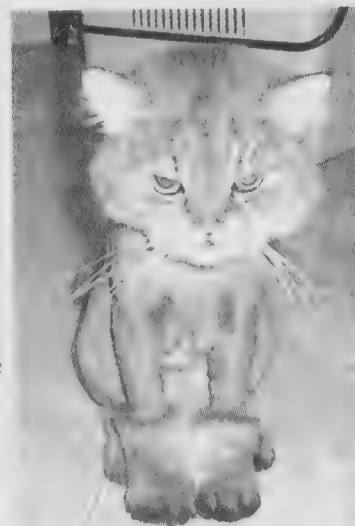
Legend begins with a woman with a slight accent. She has cats and when she lived in the south she would take them to the groomers and have what is called a Line Cut. To her a line cut is when all of the fur hanging down below the cat's tummy is taken off (because it gets matted or snarled).

When she moved to Chicago, one of the cats fur got all tangled up during the move so she took it in for a line cut. She was quite surprised when she heard the price as it was twice as much as it was down south. She confirmed with the groomer that he understood what a line cut was and he said "yes, I know what a LION cut is." It seems her accent came out sounding like LION not LINE and this is how her cat was returned to her. (see PHOTOS) She cried for a week...but not as much as the cat.

It was November in Chicago and the cat needed all the fur it had."

Gas in car to go to groomers
\$4.50
Cat car carrier
\$32.99
Grooming fee
\$80.00

Getting the look from one seriously ticked off cat ...
Priceless!



Have You Ever Wondered?...



This column attempts to answer some puzzling, and sometime bizzare questions that have crossed the minds of many we're sure. For example...

Would a penny dropped from the Empire State Building kill someone on the ground?

Given that the Empire State Building is 1,250 feet tall and ignoring such factors as wind resistance for the moment, a penny dropped from the top would hit the ground in approximately 8.8 seconds, having reached a speed of roughly 280 feet per second.

This is not particularly fast. A low-powered .22 or .25 caliber handgun bullet, to which a penny is vaguely comparable in terms of mass, typically has a muzzle velocity of 800 to 1,100 FPS, with maybe 75 foot-pounds of energy.

On top of this we must consider that the penny would probably tumble while falling, and that the Empire State Building, like all tall buildings, is surrounded by strong updrafts. As a result the penny's descent would be substantially slowed.

Thus while you might conceivably inflict a fractured skull on some hapless New Yorker, the penny would not "go through just like that." I bet it wouldn't even penetrate the skin. Not that I intend to find out.

For the record, the Empire State folks claim no one has ever dropped anything off their building. Yeah, right!



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by the Bashful Comic



Here's a cute one in honour of our out-going
Prime Minister...

Jean Chr tien awoke one morning to a glorious day. The sky was clear, and the sun was bright and radiant. Jean decided to walk to Parliament Hill.

As he was walking, he looked up at the sun, and said, "Mister Sun, who is de greatest Prime Minister dis country has ever had?"

The sun beamed down upon Jean, and in a booming voice responded, "Jean, there is no doubt that you are the greatest Prime Minister that Canada has ever had!"

Jean's chest puffed out and he arrived at work feeling wonderful and important. He had a marvellous day, so marvellous that he decided to walk home. The evening was as glorious as had been the morning.

As he walked, he looked up at the sun and asked, "So, Mr. Sun, am I not de greatest Prime Minister Canada has ever had?"

The Sun looked down at him, and in a booming voice, responded, "You are an incompetent and corrupt arse who should be sitting in a prison cell, not governing a modern nation. This country has never seen a worse Prime Minister in its entire history."

Taken aback, Jean responded, "But dis morning, you said dat I was de greatest Prime Minister dis country has ever had. Why did you change your mind?"

"This morning," replied the sun, "I was in the East. This evening I'm in the West!"



OK, Show of hands...
Who's tired of snow?

Okay... it's not that bad yet... but I still couldn't resist after that big snowstorm that hit our area - knocking out my power right at deadline time. Panic... guess what...
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New Arts Council Formed For Haliburton County

A new Arts Council for Haliburton County was launched at an Arts Forum and Arty Party held at YMCA Wanakita on Tuesday, November 25th

The creation of the Arts Council is a result of research and community consultation undertaken over the past few months by the Arts Committee of the Haliburton County Development Corporation. The Arts Council will serve as voice and catalyst for all of the arts in Haliburton County with the following mission and mandate:

"The Arts Council for Haliburton County strives to provide a strong voice for the arts in Haliburton County; to serve as a catalyst for community economic development through the arts; and, through the facilitation of collaborative relationships among artists, organizations, businesses and government, contribute to the vibrancy of the arts and community life."

The mandate includes in the following areas related to the arts in Haliburton County: Advocacy, Communication and Information, Business Development, Catalyst for Community Economic Development, Facilitation, Training and Education, Marketing, and Sustainability

The Community Economic Development Committee of the Haliburton County Development Corporation put out a call for individuals from throughout the County to serve on the first

Steering Committee of the Arts Council and be champions for the Arts. There was a tremendous response from across the County. Twenty-one individuals representing all four municipalities in the County and a wide range of art sectors, skills, backgrounds and interests have stepped forward to serve on the Steering Committee. The Arts Council is being formed under the auspices of the Haliburton County Development Corporation which will provide administration and organization support.

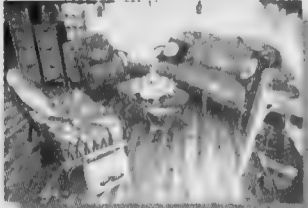
Forty-seven people attended the Arts Forum on the Tuesday afternoon to hear about the new arts council and its proposed initiatives for the next year and to give their feedback. Over 150 people attended the Arty Party which followed - a potluck dinner and celebration for the creative community of Haliburton County.

The Steering Committee will hold its first meeting on December 15th. If you would like to be kept informed about the activities of the Arts Council or would like to become involved you can call the HCDC office 457-3555 or contact Jim Blake - Arts Consultant at jblake@halhinet.on.ca or 457-5278.

HDHC Identifies Arts As An Important Economic Sector

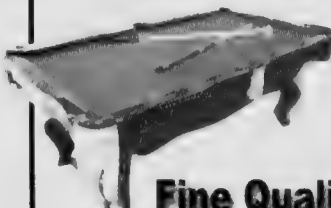
HCDC is an independent, not-for-profit corporation governed by a board of directors of Haliburton County residents. It provides loans to small businesses in Haliburton County and has a long history of sponsoring community economic development initiatives. In 1997 the CED Committee of HCDC identified the arts as an important economic sector and created the Arts Committee to focus on this sector. Since that time HCDC has provided financial and administrative support to a wide range of arts initiatives. Sponsorship of an Arts Council is the next step in the development of an independent, county-wide organization that will be a catalyst for economic development through the arts. The Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network is one example of a county-wide organization that was initially formed under the auspices of the CED Committee of HCDC.

In an upcoming issue of *The Communicator*, we'll look more closely at the mandate & goals of this new committee.



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Christmas Is A Great Time To Give...

Christmas is a wonderful time of year but for many families it can be a sad time. Some people are less fortunate than others and struggle with many things a lot of us take for granted such as putting food on the table or buying their children gifts. Thanks to great communities like ours we can help take some pressure off their hands this holiday season. Here are a few ways that we've found that you can help out and we're sure there are others as well.

Drop Your Donations Off With Haliburton County Homebuilders Assoc. & Be Entered Into A Draw To Win A Prize!!

The Haliburton County Homebuilders association is a holding their 8th annual Christmas challenge. You can collect unwrapped toys or food items at your office or Christmas party and phone the homebuilders association to arrange pick up or delivery of your toys to the 4c's workshop. Last year 52 companies and individuals participated. When you participate you will receive a ballot for a draw. To help the homebuilders in their efforts this year and make a difference CALL 1-705-457-2629

Drop Your Donations At Gordon Monk Funeral Home in Minden

The Gordon Monk Funeral Home in conjunction with the Christmas Basket campaign will be accepting canned foods, monetary donations and new unwrapped toys or clothing for all ages this season. You can drop off your gifts at the Monk Funeral Home daily if you wish from 9am-5pm or call 286-2128



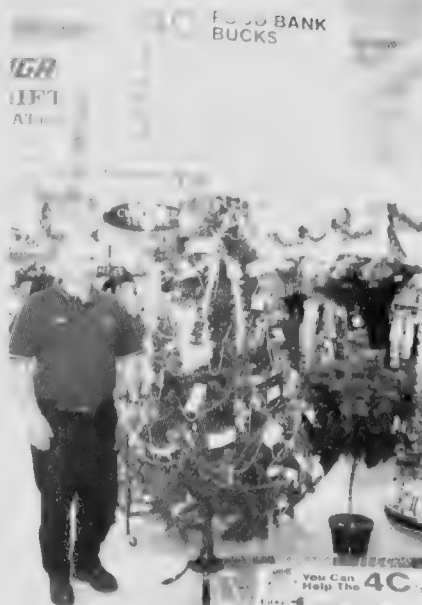
Kim Burk at Valu-mart with a donation bag.

Food Bank Grocery Bags

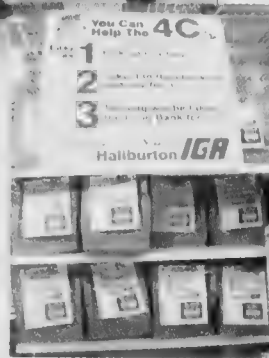
You can also purchase bags of food at the IGA stores in Haliburton, Minden and Wilberforce, as well as the Valu-marts in Haliburton and Minden. These bags are on display at the stores - there are a variety of different bags

valued at different prices. You simply include them in your check-out items, pay for them (the amount attached to the bag) and they are placed in the drop boxes located at each store.

These are food bags contain non-perishable items the food bank really needs. Both programs run to January 1, 2004.



FOOD BANK BUCKS



Food Bank Bucks

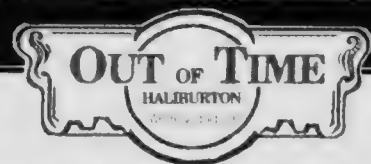
Both the Haliburton IGA and the Haliburton V&S store have Christmas trees in their stores which contain "FOOD BANK BUCKS" that you can purchase at the stores. Simply choose a denomination and take the bucks to the cashier. You pay the amount you choose, and this is given to the Food Bank. "We'll match money donated up to \$500," says IGA Owner Bob Park.

Last year these two merchants efforts raised \$1,500. Bob and V&S owner Andy Glecoff started the program last year because they knew the food bank needs money and it would be an easy way for people to help out - simply grab the bucks and hand them in when they cash out.

"I've seen where the money goes, and it is put to good use, like buying turkeys for families," says Bob.

Pictured above left is Bob at the Food Bank Buck tree at the Haliburton IGA. At left are 4C's donation bags available at most grocery stores.

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It's The Law!

These are actual laws that have been passed. Some have since been altered or removed but some remain on the books.

In Carmel, New York, it's against the law for a man to go out wearing a jacket that doesn't match his pants.

In Berea, Ohio, dogs and cats out after dark were once required to wear taillights!

Onions were banned in many places in ancient India, and people who ate them were required to do so outside city limits!

It's against the law in New York city to open an umbrella in front of a horse!

An ordinance passed in 1875 in the District of Columbia declared that owning an ailanthus, or "tree of heaven" was against the law!

A law in San Francisco made it illegal to dry a car at a car wash with rags made from old underwear!

Why are they called "stands" when they're made for sitting?

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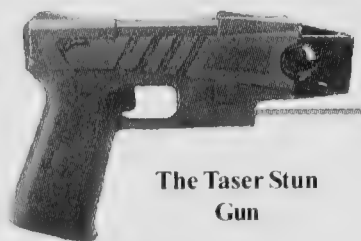
CRAZY But True Law Suits

A Stunning Situation

Madera, Calif., police officer Marcy Noriega had arrested Everardo Torres, 24, and had him handcuffed in the back of her police cruiser. The charge was not too extreme: he was arrested "on suspicion of resisting and delaying police" as they tried to quiet down a noisy party.

Torres, however, was far from cooperative. As he sat in the back of the police car he kicked at the windows. Officer Noriega decided to subdue him with her Taser, which fires two metal pins attached to wires and then charges them with current to "stun" the target.

Instead of pulling and shooting Torres with her Taser, she accidentally drew her service handgun and shot him.



The Taser Stun Gun

The District Attorney ruled the shooting accidental and did not file charges against officer Noriega, but the city admitted liability in the shooting and offered Torres' family a \$350,000 settlement. In response, the family filed a claim for \$10 million. When the city rejected the claim, the family filed a wrongful death suit in federal court.

The city said: officer Noriega isn't at fault for killing Torres! While they admit they were "partially responsible for the loss" of Torres' life, she and the city of Madera have in turn filed suit against Taser International Inc., the manufacturer of the non-lethal weapon. The lawsuit says Taser is responsible because the company's training procedures (are you ready for this one...) do not adequately teach police officers the difference between the Taser and their own handguns. In their research, Madera's lawyers found just two previous cases of such mistakes, though both times the unfortunate victims survived. "Once we found the two other incidents, we made [a] change" in Madera police procedure, advising officers not to carry their Taser on the same side of their belts as their handguns, says the city's lawyer.

(Remember! The gun on left to stun, the one on the right to kill. Got it?)

Some officers have said that there is a noticeable difference in shape and weight between the two guns and wonder how anyone could ever mix them up in the first place.

A three-legged dog walks into a saloon in the Old West. He sidles up to the bar and announces: "I'm looking for the man who shot my paw.?"



Lange On The Law



Injunctions

Injunctions are obtained through a lawsuit and they are of two kinds: injunctions to prohibit someone from doing something and injunctions to require someone to do something. Normally, the lawsuit will seek an interlocutory injunction so that the injunction is in place immediately, until the trial occurs. At the trial, the plaintiff will then seek a permanent injunction.

In granting or refusing an interlocutory injunction, the court applies three tests. The first test is that the plaintiff must demonstrate that the lawsuit has a serious question to be tried. An example of a serious question is someone blockading a right of way to property. The first test will be determined by the judge on the basis of common sense and an extremely limited review of the lawsuit on its merits. Unless the lawsuit is frivolous or vexatious, a judge must consider the second and third tests.

In the second test, the plaintiff is required to demonstrate that "irreparable" harm will result if the interlocutory injunction is not granted. "Irreparable" refers to the nature of the harm rather than its magnitude. If the nature of the harm is financial losses, rather than access to property, the harm may or may not be irreparable depending on the circumstances.

In the third test, the court must assess the balance of inconvenience to the parties until the trial occurs. There is a clear inconvenience to the user of a right of way if the user is blockaded from his or her property. Indeed, where an interlocutory injunction is sought to prohibit interference with property rights, the injunction is so strongly favoured by the courts that it is more accurate to state that the injunction is the presumed remedy.

A plaintiff seeking an interlocutory injunction must make an undertaking ("a promise") to the court to pay for any financial losses if it ultimately appears at trial that the granting of the interlocutory injunction has caused damage to the defendant.

In the next column, I will be talking about mortgage enforcement.

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Worldly



News

After reading Walt's hockey column recently about parents and hockey, I found this tidbit. It appears that overbearing parents are found in every sport. (Just a reminder to keep it light and keep it fun for the kids):

Joseph Alan Logan, 46, of Pinson, Ala., was mighty upset when the University of Alabama football team lost a game 34-31 in double overtime. Then his son, Seth, 20, asked him for a car. Investigators say Joseph, still in a rage, put a gun to Seth's head, said he was going to blow his brains out and pulled the trigger. He missed. "He claimed he was just trying to scare his son," a sheriff's spokesman says. "I know we take football serious in the South, but that's crossing the line."

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Fired of the city and looking for a smaller town atmosphere for their children, Trace and her husband Robert, moved to the Highlands from Toronto last December. Trace had operated her own business in the city and decided to continue her business out of her new home here and has been steadily building her clientele base since she opened for business in February.

Trace still has clients in Toronto and works closely with three accountants there as well, which can be an asset to her new clients in the Highlands as she can provide herself as a liaison

between her clients and them. "Technology today is definitely an asset," she says.

Trace believes in taking courses to stay updated on all changes taking place in the tax world. She also works closely with her client's accountant to make sure that the customer's needs and best interests are served in the appropriate manner.

Trace explains, "I'm lucky to have a variety of clients, so I'm able to get the whole spectrum of different types of businesses. I also work with different types of software and am able to recommend to my clients the software I think might be more suited to them for their business."

According to Trace, a lot of people think that if you have a bookkeeper, the bookkeeper has to do everything but that's not necessarily so. In some cases it is but Trace says she has other customers that still do a lot of it themselves and just need to use her services when needed.

If you would like to reach Trace to find out what services she has to offer, you can call her anytime at 457-2451 for a free consultation



Haliburton 457-1402

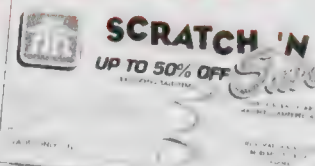
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Introducing The 2004 Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors

It's that time of year again when we introduce the 2004 Board of Directors for the Haliburton County Chamber of Commerce.

This year's president is Bob Hall of CMA in Minden. He can be reached at 286-5108 or email Robert.w.hall@sympatico.ca

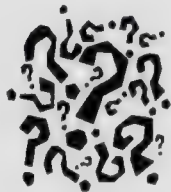
The Vice President is Eric Christensen of Buttermilk Falls Resort in Minden. He can be reached at 489-1904 or email: relax@buttermilkfallsresort.com.

The treasurer/secretary is Bill Young of Wigamog Inn in Haliburton. He can be reached at 457-2000 or by email at byoung@wigamoginn.com.

Our Past President is Jim Henwood of Henwoods Variety in Haliburton. He can be reached at 457-2921 or email: cathy.henwood@sympatico.ca.

The directors on the board are: Mark Coles of First Page SEO in Minden; Jim Miners of Haliburton Water Sports and Bray-Miners Associates in Haliburton; Graham Beeby of Beeby Management Resources in Haliburton; Peggy Cassils of Cartier Partners in Minden; Steve Heming of YMCA Wanakita in Haliburton; and Carol Moffatt of Cousins Mary's Cottage and Yake Electric / the Diving Co. in Dorset.

The Haliburton County Rep is yet to be announced.



WE ASKED YOU!

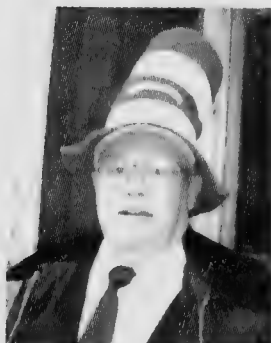
What do you want for Christmas?



**John Doherty of
Haliburton**
"Hair & all the
accessories to go with
it."



**Terry Sicard of
Haliburton**
"A raise for me and all
my staff too!"



**Don Curry of
Haliburton**
"I have what I want.
I've got my health and
you can't get any
better gift than that."



**Shannon Packard of
West Guilford**
"Nothing... I am very
happy with everything
I have right now."

**Isn't Disney World a people trap
operated by a mouse?**



TOFFLEMIRE PHOTOGRAPHY

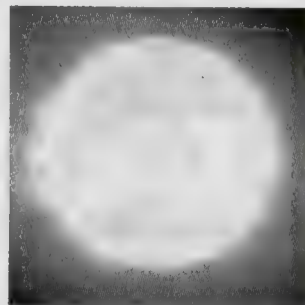
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Tim Tofflemire**



Websites of Interest

Like Live Pics of the Sun & Earth... Check out:
www.space.com/spacewatch/cams.html



SOHO

The images are generated by the Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) spacecraft, which sits partway between Earth and the Sun. It is updated every 4 hours

SOHO was launched on December 2, 1995. SOHO is designed to study the internal structure of the Sun, its extensive

outer atmosphere and the origin of the solar wind, the stream of highly ionized gas that blows continuously outward through the Solar System

The Solar and Heliospheric Observatory (SOHO) is helping us understand the interactions between the Sun and the Earth's environment better than has been possible to date. Its legacy may enable scientists to solve some of the most perplexing riddles about the Sun, including the heating of the solar corona, the acceleration of the solar wind, and the physical conditions of the solar interior. It will give solar physicists their first long term, uninterrupted view of the mysterious star that we call the Sun

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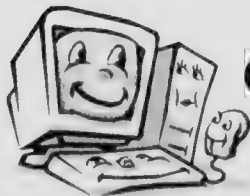


HALIBURTON COUNTY
HOMEBUILDERS ASSOC



CANASA

Canadian Alarm & Security Association



COMPUTER HUMOUR!

Bill Gates VS GM

Bill Gates wanted to look good and impress everyone with his success. He decided to measure the accomplishments of Microsoft against General Motors.

The comparison went like this:

If automotive technology had kept pace with computer technology over the past few decades, you would now be driving a V-32 instead of a V-8, and it would have a top speed of 10,000 miles per hour (160,000 km/hr).

Or you could have an economy car that weighs 30 pounds (14 kilos) and gets a thousand miles to a gallon of gas. In either case the sticker price of a new car would be less than \$50.

GM Responds...

In response to all this goading, GM responds: "Yes, but would you really want to drive a car that crashes four times a day?"

Some other thoughts along this line:

1. Every time they repainted the lines on the road you would have to buy a new car.
2. Occasionally your car would die on the freeway for no reason, and you would just accept this, restart, and drive on.
3. Occasionally, executing a maneuver would cause your car to stop and fail and you would have to re-install the engine. For some strange reason, you would accept this too.
4. You could only have one person in the car at a time, unless you bought "Car95" or "CarNT". But then you would have to buy more seats.
5. Macintosh would make a car that was powered by the sun, was reliable, five times as fast, twice as easy to drive, but would only run on five percent of the roads.
6. The Macintosh car owners would get expensive Microsoft upgrades to their cars, which would make their cars run much slower.
7. The oil, gas and alternator warning lights would be replaced by a single "general car default" warning light.
8. New seats would force everyone to have the same size butt.
9. The airbag system would say, "Are you sure?" before going off.
10. If you were involved in a crash, you would have no idea what happened.

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If you try to fail, and really succeed,
which have you really done?

Technology Ahead of it's Time...

Music was first sent down a telephone line in 1876

So you think downloading music from the Internet via a phone line is a really cool modern thing? Not so. In 1896, Thaddeus Cahill filed a patent on the "art of and apparatus for generating and distributing music electronically" and until 1914 he fed music signals down AT&T's telephone lines with his Telharmoniums apparatus. And he wasn't even the first. Elisha Grey transmitted music over a telephone line in 1876 - the same year the telephone was invented. Grey invented the first electronic music instrument in 1874, calling it the "Musical Telegraph."

Alexander Graham Bell also designed an experimental "Electric Harp" for speech transmission over a telephone line using similar technology to Gray's. Bell also was a teacher of speech to the deaf. In 1879 he created an audiometer to detect hearing loss. That is why the degrees of loudness came to be measured in bells or decibels.

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Haliburton, Ont, K0M 1S0
(705) 457-4555
Email: sales@systems-software.net

SS

Hwy 121

SYSTEMS SOFTWARE & SUPPORT

What's HOT on the Shelf?

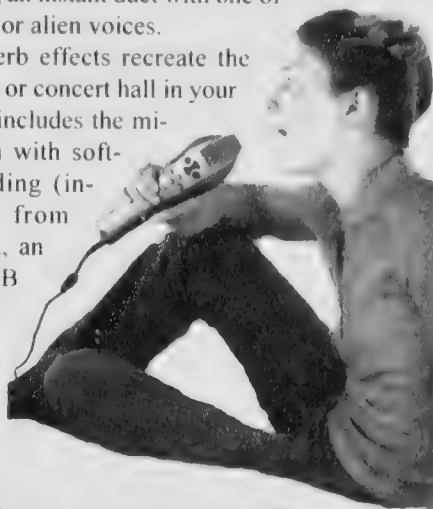
All-in-one Hand-Held Karaoke System

If you enjoy singing then you might want to head into Sear's Catalog store in Minden or Haliburton and order the new all-in-one hand-held Karaoke system with built-in music.

Just plug the microphone into your TV and you can start singing – and if you're a little off, don't worry, this system can electronically correct the pitch of your voice with the push of a button.

But that's not all this cool microphone does – You can also change the sound of your voice from male to female, or female to male, or you can go crazy with an alien voice. Real-time harmony feature transforms your voice into 2 harmonious voices or allows you to sing an instant duet with one of your gender-change or alien voices.

Professional reverb effects recreate the sound of a nightclub or concert hall in your own home. The kit includes the microphone, CD-Rom with software for downloading (in-screen) songs from www.onkeysongs.ca, an AV/TV cable, USB cable and instruction manual. The cost of the system is \$99.99. What a great Christmas gift!!



XONIX 128MB USB DIGITAL WATCH



This cool timepiece stores music, photos and files. Plug and play compatible, no drivers needed for Windows ME and higher! Has individual security settings and LED status indicator. Shock-proof and anti-static design. CD-ROM and extension cable included. This cool product can be found at Halco Radio Shack in Haliburton.

Check out these COOL Gadgets!

Making your life Easier!



59⁹⁹

Keep track of your own health

Wrist type blood pressure monitor has one-button operation for hassle-free measurements. LCD displays the systolic rate, diastolic rate and pulse rate. Features automatic air pressure pump and last memory recall. 6308133

39⁹⁹

Takes temperature in seconds

Infrared ear thermometer takes your temperature in seconds! Store up to 10 readings in memory. 512 scanning sequences per second to ensure precise accuracy.

6308132

89⁹⁹

Relieve aches and pains

Electronic Muscle Massager has selectable tapping or kneading made to relieve different types of muscle pain. Multiple comfort levels for optimal personalized comfort. 6318345

69⁹⁹

A better measure of health than standing on a scale

This body fat analyzer lets you track your fitness progress by measuring body fat results. Provides quick and accurate results in just seven seconds. 6318343

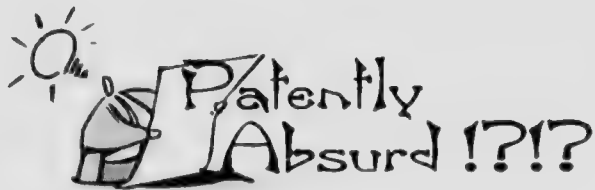


**HALCO
ELECTRONICS**

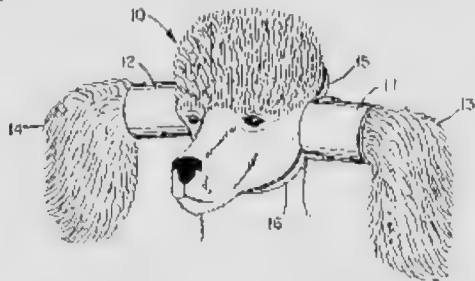
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RadioShack.ca



Anyone who has made an invention can apply for a patent. Most patents describe serious inventions, which represent technological progress in the field concerned. But not always. People patent some pretty weird and wacky ideas.... In this new column we will occasionally feature some of the more bizarre existing patents that you probably won't be seeing on the retail shelf too soon. We hope you enjoy 'Patently Absurd'.



US Patent No. US4233942. A device for protecting the ears of a long-haired dog from becoming soiled by food while it is eating. A tube contains and protects each of the dog's ears. The tubes are held away from the dog's mouth and food as it eats.



INVENTIONS

Silly Putty

Silly Putty.... Now there's a toy that many a young child will find in their stocking this year I'm sure. But where did this stuff come from?

James Wright, a GE engineer, came upon the material by mixing silicone oil with boric acid. The compound, acted very much like rubber in its ability to rebound almost 25 percent higher than a normal rubber ball. This "Nutty Putty" as it was first called, was impervious to rot, soft and malleable, and able to stretch many times its length without tearing. One other unusual quality was that Silly Putty ® could copy the image of any printed material that it was pressed upon. In 1949, the material was sold under the trade name of Silly Putty ®, selling faster than any other toy in history with over \$6 million in sales for the year. Silly Putty is now the registered trademark of Binney & Smith Inc.

A combination of history, engineering, accident and entrepreneurship produced one of the most successful toys of the twentieth century—Silly Putty®.

Early in World War II, James Wright was working in General Electric's New Haven, Connecticut labs, under a government contract to create an inexpensive substitute for synthetic rubber.



One day in 1943, Wright happened to drop boric acid into silicone oil, and was astonished to find that the resultant goo would stretch and bounce further than rubber, even at extreme temperatures. In

addition, the substance would copy any newspaper or comic-book print that it touched.

By 1945, General Electric had shared this "nutty putty" with scientists around the world, only to find that none of them, including those at the US War Production Board, found it more practical than the synthetic rubber already then being produced.

The putty seemed doomed to remain a local curiosity; but in 1949, an unemployed ad man named Peter Hodgson attended a party at which "nutty putty" was the main entertainment. Seeing its marketing potential as a children's toy, Hodgson borrowed \$147, bought the production rights from GE, and began producing the goo. He renamed it Silly Putty®, and packaged it in plastic eggs because Easter was on the way. Soon, Silly Putty® was a sensational, multi-million-dollar seller.

Ironically, it was only after its success as a toy that practical uses were found for Silly Putty®. It picks up dirt, lint and pet hair, and can stabilize wobbly furniture; but it has also been used in stress-reduction and physical therapy, and in medical and scientific simulations. The crew of Apollo 8 even used it to secure tools in zero-gravity.

Peter Hodgson's product left him an estate of \$140 million at his death in 1976. Silly Putty®, still a recognized name in over 95% of American households, remains one of the classic novelty products of modern times.

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Acorn's Furniture Opens New 5000 Square Foot Showroom

Next time you're out shopping for furniture or appliances, be sure to pay a visit to Acorn's Furniture at their new 5000 square foot showroom located on Highway 35 in Minden beside Francis Fuels.

John Acorn, owner of Acorn's Furniture has until now operated his furniture business out of a building at his home but now is excited about his move to the new location. "Since I started, it was always my goal to get a location on Highway 35," says John. "I outgrew my location and now I'm here with big plans."

Currently Acorn's Furniture has a good selection of tables, rockers, futons and couches in fabric and leather. They plan to add more and more selections each week.



"I'm meeting with more and more manufacturers and I want to ensure the quality is excellent. I want to sell high quality furniture," states

John.

John can help you find that perfect piece or pieces for any room in your home. If you have an idea, let John know and he can get it for you.

"I have tons of samples of fabrics to choose from. If someone likes a chair or couch but wants a different colour or fabric, that's no problem. We'll have it customized for the customer."

Acorn's Furniture is an authorized dealer for Wolf, Sub-Zero, Asko Best and Jenman. These companies supply high-end stainless steel refrigeration and other kitchen products from ovens and dishwashers to cooking vents. "This stuff is really, really nice," states John. We're sure you will be extremely impressed when looking through the catalogues. It's amazing what's available!



Acorn's specializes in leather furniture, and John can explain to you the different types of leather and what might be right for you. Believe it or not, there is quite a bit to leather furniture – from different grades and quality to proper care and maintenance.

Acorn's Furniture is open Monday to Thursday, 9-5:30, Friday 9-9, Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 10-5. John says if his hours don't fit your schedule he'd be happy to open after hours to help you out. Be sure to check out Acorn's Furniture on Highway 35 in Minden and say 'hello' to John. You can reach the store at 286-3030.



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Cottage Dreams Donation Can Help You Feel Warm Inside & Out

If you would like to purchase a unique gift that will help support a wonderful cause this Christmas, this is for you. Make a \$100 donation to cottage dreams, and receive a beautiful limited edition polar fleece that will keep you warm this season, or give the gift of warmth to someone else.

COTTAGE DREAMS is a local charitable organization that provides recent cancer survivors with the opportunity to get away to a donated cottage for a week of rest & relaxation. It was started and is operated by Seana O'Neill of Wilberforce.

Cottage Dreams is a free program available to those who have been out of treatment for 3 to 6 months and are making plans for the future.

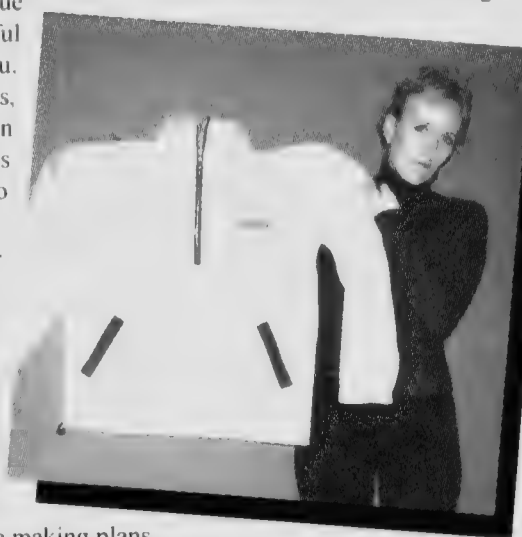
Donors are people who have vacation property and are willing to donate it to Cottage Dreams for one or more weeks a year. But now you can help this extremely worthy cause even if you don't own property. Now you can make your \$100 donation, and in return, you receive a wonderful keepsake gift. You can't lose!!

These winter white 1/4 zip jumpers come in large or extra large

with a classic Cottage Dreams logo embroidered on them and a brown faux suede trim. They are thick, cozy and look great, and you also get a tax receipt with each donation.

Please send cheque or money order to: Cottage Dreams, Box 420, Wilberforce, Ont. K0L 3C0. Or, for more information call Seana at 448-9190, fax 448-9188, or visit her website at www.cottagedreams.org.

Cottage Dreams is a local organization that provides recent cancer survivors with the opportunity to get away to a donated cottage. Pictured is Seana with the Jacket you receive when you donate to this great cause.



Food Bank Request Must Be In by December 15th

If your family is in need of assistance this Christmas season you can arrange to receive a food box from the 4c's food bank. You must make your requests between December 1st and December 13th between the hours of 10am and 3pm by phoning 457-3331. The cut off date for all requests is December 15th so please be sure to phone before then and please note that there will be no deliveries made by the 4Cs unless absolutely necessary. Pick-up for food boxes will be on December 22nd at a location closest to you between 10am and 3pm.

Get Your Picture With Santa - Check Out Great Deals - and Help A Great Cause All At The Same Time

Your chance to get your picture taken with Santa and help out a great cause at the same time is happening December 6th at Pine Reflections in Carnarvon.

Pictures with Santa will be held from 1 - 5 p.m. This is a fundraiser for the Stanhope Firefighters Association who will be on hand to take the pictures.

There will also be draws, specials, refreshments and snacks provided by the fine folks at Pine Reflections.

Don't miss this exciting day - a chance to have your picture with Santa, and a chance to do some Christmas Shopping as well. Pine Reflections is located on Hwy 35, north of 118. For any further information call Gina at 489-1397.

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Santa Claus Is Coming.... To Town...

to come out

After the hand at the gifts will be

and younger. Enjoy Christmas carols and goodies, and get your child's picture taken with Santa.

Donations are appreciated to help out with the Santa fund to purchase the gifts. Watch for donation jars in the area and please give generously as it will help make a child's Christmas a happier time. To make a donation to the Santa fund, please call Valerie Smith at 448-3640 or Roberta Walsh at 448-2185. To register a float in the parade or for more details, please call Lynn Waugh at 448-3674.

Don't Miss Santa's Workshop Craft Sale in Wilberforce

With Christmas fast approaching, you won't want to miss the opportunity to snatch up some great gifts at the upcoming Santa's Workshop Craft Sale and Flea Market presented by the Fist Wilberforce Pathfinders.

This fantastic annual event is taking place Saturday December 6 from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. at the Lloyd Watson Centre in Wilberforce.

There is always lots to see. There is also a snack bar available to keep you fueled up while browsing.

For more information you can contact Kathy Rogers at 448-2419 or 448-3652. Vendors are welcome.

Plan to visit the Historic Red Cross House Museum in Wilberforce on December 4 or 11th for their annual Christmas Open House. Held in the afternoon from 1 - 4 and evening from 7 - 9. For info call Cathy Agnew at 448-2211.

The Wilberforce Santa Claus Parade will hit the streets of downtown Wilberforce on Sunday, December 14th at 12:30 in the afternoon. All are welcome and enter a float.

parade, Santa will be on

Lloyd Watson Center and given to all children 10 years



Harcourt Community Chapel

Special Year End Activities

Thursday, December 4
Ladies Christmas Party Victorian Tea
Speaker Mrs. Sue Markham

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 14
Christmas Concert
featuring our youth and children

7:00 p.m.

Sunday, December 21
Candlelight Carol Service

7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 24
Christmas Eve Service
Refreshments following

7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 31
New Year's Eve Program
Music, Skits, Puppets, Refreshments
Be with us to see the Old Year out,
the New Year in.

9:00 p.m.

Everyone is invited to these events!

For more info call 705-448-CARE (2273)

Why are hemorrhoids called "hemorrhoids" instead of "asteroids"?

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Get Ready To Feast... It's Wildlife Supper Time Again!

Have you ever wanted to try some moose, bear, deer or maybe even partridge? On December 6th you can enjoy a taste of the wild at the annual Wildlife Supper at the Wilberforce Legion.

For a mere \$15 per plate you can enjoy an 'all you can eat' feast consisting of moose, bear, deer, beaver, duck, partridge, and fish. There will also be servings of turkey and roast beef for those who maybe want something a little more traditional.

There will be two seatings for dinner...one seating at 3:30

and another at 5:30.

All in all, the evening has proven to be enjoyable for those who attend this annual event.

All of the meat is donated by hunters and area residents as a fundraiser for the Legion. If you have food to donate, please call the Legion at 448-2221.

You may purchase tickets at the Legion prior to the event or at the door.

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Ladies... Plan to Attend Harcourt Church Ladies Christmas Victorian Tea

Ladies... there is a special evening planned at the Harcourt Church just for you. It's the annual Ladies Christmas Party Victorian Tea taking place December 4th. All women are welcome to attend this exciting evening. There will be guest speaker Mrs. Sue Markham.

This eventful evening gets underway at 7 p.m.

Harcourt Church Christmas Concert

The spirit of Christmas is sure to be high on the evening of December 14th at the Harcourt community chapel as they will be presenting their annual Christmas concert featuring the local youth and children. The entire programme will contain a Christmas theme with performances by groups of children aged 3 to teenagers. The music is always pleasing to the ears and the really young ones are always totally adorable to watch.

The classes performing are from the chapels Sunday school and have been practicing hard to bring you an evening of music.

All are welcome and invited to attend the concert, which will run from 7pm till approximately 9pm. Refreshments and snacks will be served afterwards and all children will be treated to candy and treats. Be sure to come on out to this wonderful evening of music and show your support for the local youth, as it's always a great family outing!

**War doesn't determine who is right, just
who is left.**

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Trillium Lakelands Students Travel Again!

Trillium Lakelands District School Board Director of Education David Hill is pleased to announce that the moratorium on International Travel has been lifted. A revamped procedure for field trips and excursions was presented at the November 25th Board meeting where trustees unanimously voted for International Travel to be sanctioned once again.

"The safety and well-being of students while traveling out of country was of primary importance when considering the lifting of the moratorium," Director Hill stated. "I felt it was necessary to carefully scrutinize the current procedures to make sure that areas of concern were covered."

Moratorium on International Travel has been Lifted!!

One of the changes in the new procedure involves the differentiation of curriculum-based travel versus recreational travel. The new procedures identify 'recreational travel' as "outside the jurisdiction of the Board and the Board accepts no responsibility for any part of the activity." It also states that teachers involved in recreational travel

are acting independently from the board. Schools will select travel companies from a list of approved agencies, which agree to meet all criteria established by the board including trip cancellation insurance in instances of political unrest or the possibility of environmental complications.

"We sought the advice of secondary school teachers well-seasoned in international travel," stated Director Hill. "They were extremely helpful in formulating our guidelines ensuring the safety of all participants on trips whether within our own geographical boundaries or overseas." Principals from both the elementary and secondary stream were consulted to make sure lines of communication and proper permission procedures are followed.

"There is tremendous educational value in international trips," stated Board of Trustee Chair Rick Johnson "I'm also pleased that the new procedure emphasizes that where ever possible, destinations closer to the school and community shall be selected over more distant locations."

At present there are not any formal plans for International Trips and the new procedure states that the Principal and the Director of Education must be given submissions of request for approval at least four months prior to the event. Now that the moratorium as been lifted, teachers eager to have their students experience international travel will be submitting their requests as soon as possible.



What's up @ Hal High?

School news for the students - by the students

by Brendan Farrell



In the month of December there are several great events happening at Hal High. For those of you who like Christmas movies, the S.A.C (Student Activity Council) is putting on a free movie in the theatre on the big screen. The movie that will be playing is Santa Clause 2 featuring Tim Allen. For more details listen to the announcements and look for posters around the school.

The week of December 15th to the 19th will be the Christmas spirit week; each day will have a different theme as well as great events happening in the main foyer at lunch!

Also on Friday, December 12th there will be the annual semi-formal dance. This year's theme is Winter Wonderland. The dance will run from 7:30pm-11:30 pm. There will also be refreshments available at the dance.

As well as the dance and movie there will also be the Traditional Christmas time assembly. Each grade will come down to the gym during different periods of the day to see the show. I'm not going to give out any of the details so I don't ruin the surprise for you!

For More information on specific dates or anything else you would like to know see your Co-captains Luke Wu or Jillian Brown.

Be A Reporter in Your School.

We're looking for students who would like to submit articles from the various schools throughout the county, particularly JDH in Haliburton. As well we welcome any submissions from the schools for our school news section of the Communicator. Give us a call at 448-1847!!

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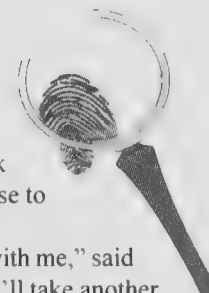
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Haliburton
457-2912

NEWBATT'S
APPLIANCES & FURNITURE



Detective Minden stood at the kitchen table in the McDonald farmhouse interviewing the shaken owner, John McDonald.

"Sam had had a grudge against me for a while," said John, a tall, lean farmer with a furrowed face and sharp, gray eyes. He was in his mid-fifties and wore a plaid shirt and blue-jean overalls. "But he was a good hand, and I kept him on because I needed his help."

"Why did he have a grudge against you?" asked Minden.

"Well, he'd been paying attention to my daughter Elizabeth, and I didn't like it. She wants to study medicine, and I thought she could do better in choosing a fellow."

"And this morning, John? Once more, please," said Minden.

John paused a moment and frowned.

"I was digging a fence furrow by the outer pasture," he stated. "Some of my cows have been wandering out that way. It was about ten-thirty. Sam snuck up behind me, from the direction of the barn. Luckily I saw his shadow, with the upraised knife. I spun around and got him first with the shovel. Pure self-defense."

Case of the Shadowy Farmer

"And then?" asked Minden.

"Once I saw he was laid out, I ran back here and called it in. Nothing else to tell, really."

"In that case, if you'll come with me," said Minden, standing up, "I think I'll take another stroll out to the pasture."

A few minutes later, Minden stood where the body of Sam Swiftly had lain. After pausing to gaze north at Mount Northpeak, Minden swept his eyes over the area. The barn was a few hundred yards to his left, and to his right lay bramble fields and woods. By his feet, the unfinished fence furrow ran north toward the distant mountain.

"I was inside all morning, and was napping when I received the call about this murder. When did all these clouds roll in?"

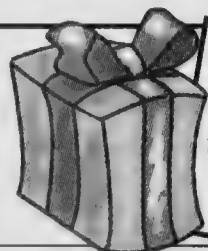
"About noon," replied John.

Minden took a long breath, sighed, and looked again at distant Northpoint Mountain.

"Well, John, this was a deliberate murder. I'm afraid you're under arrest."

How does Minden know John is lying?

answer.... pg. 54 ...



Want to really impress
your wife, boss
father-in-law or neighbour
this holiday season?

Adopt a metre of trail in their name!

Choose from 4
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Bigger payout, higher price for 6/49

Canada's most popular lottery is upping the ante. As of June 2004, it will cost \$2 to play the twice-weekly Loto 6/49. The jackpot will also be increased from \$2 million to \$4 million.

Lottery officials say they're responding to changing customer demands - among them, the lure of huge jackpots in some American lotteries.

Along with the higher price and the bigger payout, the odds of actually winning a prize will improve. Currently, the smallest cash prize is \$10, for matching three numbers. Under the new configuration, you can win \$5 if you match two numbers plus the bonus number.

Lottery officials say the odds of winning the big prize will remain around 14 million to one.

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A HOOT!**



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457-2223 Highland Street, Haliburton

Stay Warm With The Help of Fleece & Caroline

There's nothing more uncomfortable in the winter than cold feet. Caroline Dahlke, owner of Haliburton's Sew Right can help you keep your feet warm all season with her custom leather-soled fleece socks/slippers. These extremely comfortable and warm slipper socks come in any size as she can custom make them to fit your foot exact. She also has some pre-made in sizes from newborn to size 11.

Caroline was always interested in designing a sock that would not wear through the heel and toe. After a lot of experimenting, her vision of the fleece and leather sock was ready for production. "I've made hundreds of these socks for many happy customers and it's rewarding when I hear of construction workers getting a year and a half out of a pair," says Caroline.

The socks are soft, flexible, machine washable, strong and warm. They make a great slipper for around the house, because they not only keep your feet warm, but they are extremely comfortable as they hug your feet. You can hardly tell you have anything on your feet. As well, they look terrific on.

Interesting to note is that many fleece products are made from recycled pop bottles providing warmth without the weight. You'll notice this when you wear your sock/slipper around the house. They also make a great edition for under the boots – your feet will stay warm. The leather sole provides great durability.

Haliburton's Sew Right also has a full line of other fleece products including jackets, vests, gloves, headbands, blankets and custom work in any pattern or colour you can imagine.



(We at the Communicator personally own two pair of the fleece and leather socks each and two fleece coats, and we can attest that they are both extremely comfortable and very warm.) These socks in particular will make an excellent gift for anyone in your family.

To learn more about Caroline's fleece products and what she can whip up for you, please call 448-1454 and she'll be more

than happy to make you products to keep you toasty this winter. Her shop is located right in Tory Hill on the highway, across from the park. She has a sign in front of her home shop, or call ahead and be

ready to see what Caroline can do with a sewing machine and some material – you'll be amazed.



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Minden

Dining and Entertainment

The Lounge Cafe

The Lounge Café - A Community Entertainment 'Hot Spot' in Carnarvon

There's sure to be a lot more to do in Carnarvon now with the Lounge Café – a new addition to The Hair Lounge building. The new café will be used for a variety of events from open stages for youth and adults to concert series and more.

For over a year, the Hair Lounge was used for open stage musical evenings and special guest performances. A few months ago their insurance company decided not to allow



open stages at the Hair Lounge. Claudette Pitre explains, "So, we decided to open a business that the insurance companies would insure to do our musical evenings and events. We thought it was crazy that an insurance company could dictate if our community could have a musical outlet or not." But the unique result is something to be proud of and a welcomed addition to the community.

What can you order at The Lounge Café? Tempt your taste buds with specialty coffees and teas, lattes,

cappuccino, mocha and espresso, juices and smoothies. You can also get your hands on some good old-fashioned ice cream sandwiches – to go or to eat in. There will also be a variety of desserts made from scratch for the picking.

Claudette also points out, "All our coffees and teas support the fair trade market - meaning that people who work and produce the coffees are paid fairly. They are not slaves...paid or treated poorly."

The open stages will continue every first to third Saturday evening of each month. Want to share your musical talent with others? Then, come on out or just come out to hear some great live entertainment. All styles and musical interests are welcomed.

Claudette also plans to have a concert series and a Sunday afternoon kids' open stage where all talents from kids will be open from magic to dance to music.

"We are also planning storytelling evenings and sushi nights," adds Claudette.

There's sure to be lots upcoming at the Lounge Café as time goes on. Be sure to stop in and check it out. It's hard to describe the funky interior but Mark Christiano popped his head in and stated, "I think it's best described as an eclectic mix of Looney Tunes meets Beetlejuice." Good analogy, Mark!

Claudette would like to recognize Steve McQueen as the artist and carpenter of the stage and interior. She would like to thank Michael Butz, Alex and Cathy of Happy Trails Paint Design and the whole community for coming together to help."

"It's a dream come true for me," says Claudette. I've always

Lounge Cafe cont'd... pg. 35 ...

Pasta Ta Pizza

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Closed Sunday & Monday

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Tuesday: All You Can Eat Pasta

Wednesday: Seniors discount.

10% off all food items (alcohol excluded)

Thursday: Family Night - Kids Eat for ½ price
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Comfortable, relaxing dining
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Back by popular demand...

Deluxe Slices!!!

Party Sized Pizzas Available!!

Take-out Only

The Lounge Cafe cont'd...

... from pg. 34



wanted a coffee house and now it's a community space here."

Be sure to check it out next time in Carnarvon. The Lounge Café is opened Thursday to Sunday, 12 – 10 p.m. and subject to change as time goes on and things happen. We'll let you know in the Communicator some of the great entertainment coming our way. So keep an eye out!!

To reach the Lounge Café, please call 489-3311 and, Oh yes, the Trinity Centre is still there.

How come two kids play fighting in school get everything from multi-day suspensions to police laying charges, yet two grown men fighting on ice at a hockey game in front of a crowd only get 5 - 10 minutes in the penalty box?

School Christmas Concerts

Christmas is that wonderful time of the year when we get the chance to gather at the local schools to watch the annual Christmas Concerts. In addition to being quite entertaining, the concerts definitely set the mood for the Christmas spirit.

The following is a list of the upcoming school Christmas concerts for the area:

Wilberforce Public School

December 16 at the Lloyd Watson Centre. At 1:30. Everyone welcome to attend. Watch skits, a play and music.

J.D.H.

Students are holding a Christmas Puppet Theatre on Wednesday December 10th in the morning (time still being arranged). Everyone Welcome to attend. There is also a Christmas assembly being held on Friday, December 19th for the students.

H.H.S.S.

The students are holding a Christmas Music Special at the Northern Lights Pavilion on December 10th. Admission is free and all are welcome to attend. Donations are welcomed. The event gets underway at 7:30 p.m.

Stuart Baker

From the 17th to the 21st, the students will be singing Christmas Carols in the school hallways from 9 – 9:30 a.m. On the 18th and 19th at 1:30 p.m., there will be a one hour concert held at the school. Everyone welcome to attend.

Archie Stouffer

A Christmas assembly is being held on December 19th including skits, music and more. The activities are being held in the morning. Again, everyone is welcome to



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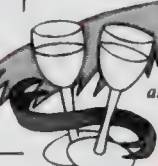
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 Owner
 Walt McKechnie Downtown Haliburton
"IT'S NOT WHO'S MISSING, IT'S WHO'S HERE!!!"
 Mats Sundin

Up-coming Bus Trip Features Theatre Production of 'The Producers'

If you enjoy live productions, you might want to join others in an upcoming bus trip to see 'The Producers' at the Canon Theatre in Toronto.

The trip, organized by Haliburton County Home Support Services, includes highway coach transportation, dinner, theatre tickets and all taxes and gratuities. Lunch is on your own at the Pickering Town Centre.

The cost is \$175, of which \$80 is due upon registration and \$95 due by Feb. 15th.

The trip is scheduled for April 21st, but book soon so that you assure your spot on the bus.

The bus leaves from both Haliburton and Minden. For reservations or more information, contact Home Support at 457-2941

Song Writers Retreat Worth The Drive to Orangeville

While not being held locally, if you are a songwriter or want to learn, this info was passed along to us from the Haliburton County Folk Society, and it could be of interest to musicians and songwriters.

A Songwriter's Retreat, is being held Dec 6 and 7, 2003 happening at the Ecology Retreat Centre near Orangeville. The teachers will be 3 of Canada's top award winning singer/songwriters: Ian Tamblyn, Lynn Miles and Terry Tufts presenting this retreat. In one weekend you will be able to learn the techniques of songwriting that these amazing artists have taken years to acquire through extensive trial and error. Imagine how you will feel taking a great leap forward in your own creative process.

Some of the topics included in the retreat are: What are songs and why do we write them; Finding your personal themes and your point of view; Your instrument and its influence on songwriting and your voice; The types of songs, the form, the rules and the rules to break; Integrating the music with words, clichés, metaphor, simile, rhyme, cadence, etc; Transporting the listener to the "AIIA" moment in the song; The 30th song and getting through the Wall (writer's block); Self-editing and re-working the song; Performance tips and singing the songs; and Recording a C/D (demo?), registering and selling the songs, royalties, etc.

In addition, there will be an opportunity to present one of your songs to the instructors and get constructive feedback.

The retreat begins at 9am on Saturday December 6 and ends around 4:30 pm on Sunday December 7.

The retreat will be preceded by two concerts: one by Ian Tamblyn on Thursday night and one by Lynn Miles and Terry Tufts on Friday night.

The Friday night concert is included in the fee for the course. There will be a discount given to retreat participants who want to attend the Thursday concert. It is highly recommended that participants take advantage of hearing these superb songwriters. If you are interested contact Russell Scott: c/o the Ecology Retreat Centre, RR#1, Orangeville, ON L9W 2Y8 or call 519-941-4560.

Spice Up Your Culinary Life With Help From Franka

Cooking Classes Offered Monthly:

If you are tired of the same old meals and want to add some exciting new dishes to your meal choices, you now have a couple of great options thanks to Franka's Delectables Catering services – learn to cook some new meals yourself, or pick up an already prepared dish or dishes for you entertaining or dining pleasures.

Franka offers two great services – one a monthly cooking class and the other a new service where you can pick-up food orders to take home with you.

We'll begin with the monthly cooking classes. You can attend one or all of her great classes. You will learn to make a variety of dishes with on hands experience. You get to make the dishes on site, taste them, and even take some home for your family to try, or for you to enjoy later. "In all you get the lesson, the experience, you get to eat, and you get to take some home. You get a lot for your money," exclaims Franka.

Each monthly class features a new theme. "From the basic to the exotic, we have some interesting themes," says Franka.

This month features new easy holiday appetizers featuring special guest Mary Fiumano, owner and culinary expert from 'A Savoury Thyme'.

The course, taking place December 6, offers hands on cooking experience. You will learn to prepare quick and easy dips, canapé and frozen hor derves, such as: Mini Pizza's with caramelized onion and Chevre, Red Pepper Jelly and Pecan Puff Triangles, Pear & Brie Beggar Purses, Shrimp Remoulade on cucumber or endive, Marinated Goat Cheese with Sundried Tomato on baguette slices, Black Bean and Tomato Salsa Dip, and Cranberry Crostini.

Yum... Sounds tasty, and it could be the hit you are looking for this holiday season!! The cost of the class is \$45 per person.



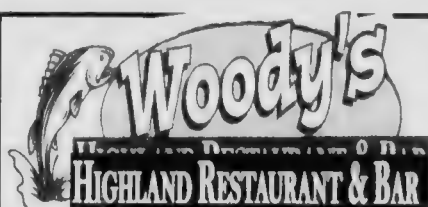
New Pick-up Service Offers Great Ready Made Dishes:

If you are entertaining, or just want a special meal for home, you can order a special dish from Franka and pick it up at her bed & breakfast called Whispering Pines, located on Pine St. in Haliburton.

Franka also has some dishes already prepared and frozen, so you really should check out all she has to offer. "Just call Franka and see what she has in her freezer is what I tell people," Franka chuckles.

In addition to great prepared meals, or meals made to order, you will also find jams, jellies, gift baskets and more. Be sure to drop in or give her a shout before you drop by. The cooking class for December is being held in Haliburton on Dec 6, from 1 – 5 p.m. If you require more information, or to book, call Franka at 457-5276

Ready To Go Dishes are perfect for your next dinner or your next party. Leave the cooking to Franka!!



A must in your cottage country culinary adventures!

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Think BIG Honkin' Entrees.
Think Smells Great,
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Reservations Not Required - JUST SHOW UP!!

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455-9162

Actors Needed For Play Workshop - Script Reading

Calling all actors ... how would you like to be part of an exciting new play written by one of our own local residents?

Minden resident, Michael Fay, has written an historical play, *Never Such Innocence Again*, set in Haliburton County. As part of the development process he would like to have a reading with actors from our community. Friend, and neighbour, Jack Brezina is looking for a director and eight individuals to read (scripts in hand) and walk through the play in front of an invited audience.

The play includes the following characters and they would be looking for actors who could fill these roles: Ada Ross, 42, the manager of the resort; Lila Ross, 18, daughter of the manager; Vera Payne, 24, a guest of the resort, the niece of the Minister of War; Johnny Payne, 20, a guest, the nephew of the Minister; Nan Payne, 50, a guest, the mother of Vera and Johnny and sister-in-law of the Minister; Mr. Willoughby, 55, a recent arrival, a business associate of the Minister; Robert Ross, 20, A recent arrival, oldest son of the resort manager; and Tom Ross, 15, the youngest son of the resort manager.

Never Such Innocence Again is a full-length anti-war drama, which takes place on the holiday weekend before the start of World War One, at a resort in the Haliburton Highlands. It's the romantic end of summer, with three pairs of

characters caught in the magic of the moment. The characters are also sorting out what to do about the war, and dealing with the sharp divisions between them.

"A workshop is a critical part in the process of writing for the stage. It provides an author with an opportunity to see his words lifted off the page and brought to life. A workshop includes a discussion of the play following its presentation with the actors and audience participating. The discussion provides the playwright with further insight and analysis into how his words translate between the page to the actual stage," explains Jack.

"We are looking at sometime in February for the reading. For those who are participating as actors it would involve getting the script and becoming familiar with the story and in particular, your character. At a workshop, actors work with scripts in hand, so no one is expected to memorize lines, however, it is expected that you will have a feel for the mood of the play, understand the story line and be able to provide some interpretation of the character through your acting. There would be one read-through/blocking rehearsal before the actual presentation before an audience. The blocking could be "rough" and the actors would be expected to be ready to respond to problems during the reading with minimal loss of pace, character and rhythm."

So what commitment is Jack asking of you? "Enough private time to read the script to become familiar with your character and the story line. A four-hour read-through with the author, four hour blocking run through under the direction of the playwright. An eight hour workshop (Saturday or Sunday, with lunch provided) with possibly two runs-through of the play in front of the audience, the first followed by a discussion and updates to scripts, a break for refreshments and a second run-through with discussion to follow. (Time reading—15-18 hours; reading and blocking runs through-8 hours- one evening; read through and discussions- 8 hours- one day.)," he explains.

Jack continues, "Unfortunately there is no payment available for this exercise, although I would think anyone seriously interested in acting would jump at a chance to be the first to bring a character to life, help develop a play through critical analysis and bring your unique perspective on the character to the author's attention."

If you are interested you can contact Jack at jack@kevker.com or you can contact Michael Fay at 286-3668 or m.fay@sympatico.ca.



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Dan Chumbley

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Two boll weevils grew up in South Carolina. One went to Hollywood and became a famous actor. The other stayed behind in the cotton fields and never amounted to much. The second one, naturally, became known as the lesser of two weevils.

Space Available For 2004 Studio Tour

The Haliburton County Studio Tour 2004 has space available and is accepting now applications for the 2004 Fall Tour.

Applicants must have their principle residence and working studio/space in Haliburton County. Your art or craft must be original works by the artist. Kits, patterns or reproductions are not acceptable.

A resume, portfolio and sample of work must be available for presentation to a committee for jurying.

If you require more information, please call Debbie Wales, Co-chairperson at 489-3177. The deadline is Monday, December 15th, 2003.

Carol Sing at Wee Kirk



Warm up the vocal cords, and head down to the Minden Museum on December 4th for the return of the annual carol sing at the Wee Kirk. Everyone is welcome to come sing the seasons songs at the traditionally decorated little

log church. The programme runs from 7 to 9 pm and includes lamp and candlelight and seasonal refreshments.

The evening will also be non-denominational poetry and readings as well as a voluntary collection. This event has been very popular in the past years and has seen standing room only so be sure to get there early. For further information contact Carol Simmons @ 286-3588.

Highlands Wind Symphony 5th Annual Christmas Concert

What better way to get your family into the spirit of the season than to attend the Northern Lights Performing Arts Pavilion on December 17th at 3 p.m.

The Highlands Wind Symphony presents the 5th annual Christmas concert featuring the newly formed Highlands Swing Band. The music is sure to be festive.

Tickets are only \$10 and available at Masters Bookstore in Haliburton and Pharmasave Drugstore in Minden. Students pay only \$5 and there is a special family rate of \$20. For more info call 457-2862.

**Do Roman paramedics refer to IV's
as 4's?**



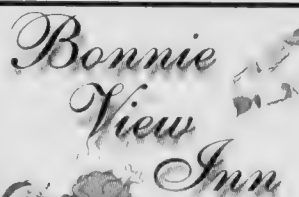
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Accommodation Available
Special Rates!!
Please don't drink & drive!

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**Cheer with others:
Open for every
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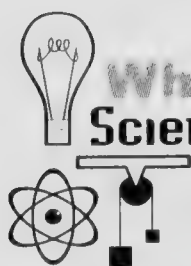
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- Parties

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Why do moths fly towards the light?

Did you know moths are not really attracted to light? Moths fly towards the blackest point which is behind the light.

What is a turtle headache?

If you don't get up when Mom calls, and you hide your head under the blanket and fall asleep, you can get a 'turtle headache'. It's from breathing stale, stinky air that's just come out of your mouth. You need fresh air full of oxygen when you sleep, to stop from getting a headache.

Shop Locally This Season!!



WINTERGREEN Pancake Barn Christmas Social

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

3 Weekends
in December!

Sat. Dec 6th, Sun. Dec. 7th
Sat. Dec 13th, Sun. Dec. 14th
Sat. Dec 20th, Sun. Dec. 21st

Surprise friends and family with the gifts of taste for Christmas this year.

Colourful and novel gourmet delights in several wooden crate displays make fine foods a pleasure and joy to behold. From brandied cherries to rum-flavoured Christmas cake, choose from 75 jams, jellies, fruit syrups and sauces and of course, maple syrup too!

Wonderful hostess gifts or selections for gift baskets available. Our regular maple menu and desserts will be offered for the three weekends.

Come and browse, shop and have a meal. Remember, we will open anytime just for you. Just call 286-3202.

Merry Christmas from the Dawson Family.

705 286-3202
County Road 1 in Gelert.



NEWS: Haliburton Br. 129, Royal Canadian Legion.

By Ethel Galvin - Public Relations

The Christmas season is fast approaching and the Ladies' Auxiliary are busy, busy, busy with Christmas dinners. They can always use help, so if you're finding extra time on your hands and need to get in the Christmas spirit by helping others give the Legion a call at 457-2571 and someone will get back to you.

We have been saddened recently by the loss of several veterans: Roy Nicolls, Leslie Reynolds, Wayne Wood, and Bill McDougall. "We will remember them"

REMEMBER the next General Meeting is Thursday, December 11th at 7:30 p.m. and that will be the last one until March.



For The YOUTH

Here's some cool things happening in the Highlands just for you!

Climax Climbing Club:

A drop-in indoor rock climbing program for children, youth and families offered by Family Services. Every Tuesday starting Oct. 28 and ending April 13th (excluding school holidays) at Camp Madeeba in West Guilford. Children 13 and under climb from 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. (children must be accompanied by an adult - adults welcome to climb too). Youth 14 and older climb from 8 - 9:30 p.m. Cost is \$2.00 per person per visit.

Club 35 Family Movie Night

This family event takes place once a month! It is a chance for families to come out and enjoy a family movie with other families. Drinks are for sale and the popcorn is on the house! Feature presentation for December 18th is: The Santa Clause 2.

There are prizes and treats and lots of fun awaiting you. Come out and share some great family time!



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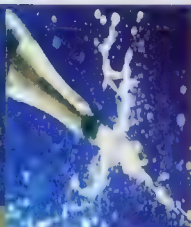
Month of December

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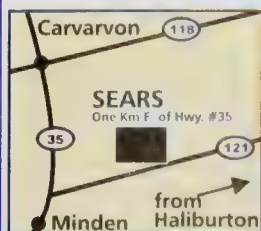
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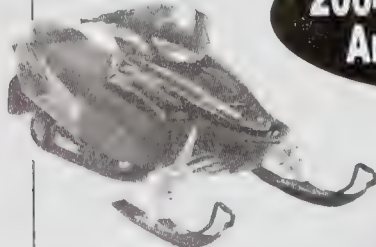
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A hippo can open its mouth wide enough to fit a 4 foot tall child inside!

Still Dont Want Them in my Pocket...

Hummingbirds can weigh less than a penny!!

Maybe a Diet is in Order..

The Earth weighs around 6,600,000,000,000,000,000,000 tons
(5,940 billion billion metric tons)!

Aren't you glad they don't taste good...

Every time you lick a stamp, you're consuming 1/10 of a calorie!

Not Counting The Ones During Work...

The average person has over 1,460 dreams a year!

Hi Mom!!

One in every 4 Americans has appeared on television!

Too Much Captain Crunch...

The average American/Canadian will eat about 11.9 pounds of cereal per year.

Probably Why He Invented It...

Thomas Edison, lightbulb inventor, was afraid of the dark!

Faster During Exams... Right Kids!!

Your heart beats over 100,000 times a day!

Fpm

Don't Want To Find Out If This Is True!!

Human thigh bones are stronger than concrete!

Good Excuse For Not Cleaning Windows

Over 10,000 birds a year die from smashing into windows!

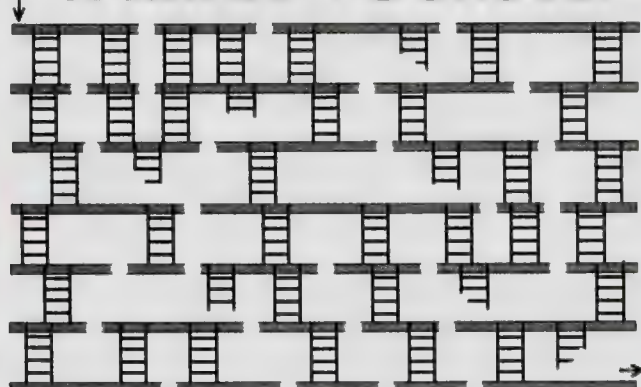
They are Small, But Mighty!!

The state of Florida is bigger than England!

And Man is the most Intelligent??????

There are more than one million animal species on Earth!

A-MAZE YOURSELF





Let's Talk Money

Some questions often asked of me are: How much money did I make, and how is my pension, and then there is the big question ... How are the Leafs going to do this year?

I will try and answer these questions for you, and I don't mind telling you about my salary in the NHL and about our pensions, because they have both been in the open for quite a while.

Going back to my first year of pro hockey, I was just honoured and proud to sign a pro contract. I would have liked to sign for more, but that is not the way it was back then. My signing bonus was \$3,000, and I had a minor league contract that paid me \$5,000, and if I played in the NHL, it was \$12,000. This was the first year of expansion – 1967-1968.

I can remember being with the Minnesota North Stars three years later at training camp in Winnipeg, and I signed a one-way contract for \$20,000. That meant that I was paid \$20,000 no matter whether I played minor or NHL.

I can still remember calling my mother, and I was happy I had signed for that much money. I was on top of the world. I won't go into my contracts for every year I played, because that would take a long time. I will tell you that my last year in Detroit, I made \$115,000. Then after taxes, that amounted to \$65,000. It seems like a lot of money, but it didn't go to far, because we all lived beyond our means.

In regards to the money today, I am like a lot of fans and think that all pro sport athletes are over paid, and I wonder where they find all the money, because when we played, it was like pulling teeth to get a raise. For example, I was a journeyman player. After playing 16 years, and almost 1,000 games, I was making \$115,000 per year. A superstar in my era, like Daryl Sittler, would make around \$350,000 to \$400,000, Bobby Orr the same – Phil Esposito the same. This was 1982 to 1983.

So 20 years later, Mats Sundin makes \$9 million U.S., and Rob Blake makes the same.

To compare to Sittler and Orr, that is 30 times what they made. Nothing against Sundin or Blake, but they couldn't fill Sittler or Orr's jock.

The 1980 Leafs, who were a pretty good team (Salming, Turnbull, Sittler, McDonald, Tiger, Ellis, Palmateer, and many more great players), had a total payroll of under \$3 million Canadian. That means, Mats Sundin makes 3 times what the whole team made – and in my opinion, Daryl Sittler was a better player.

When you played against Sittler, he played every shift like it was the 7th game of the Stanley Cup finals. Nothing against Mats, but I think he takes not only too many shifts off, but too many games off.

What I would like to know is when did the owners start to take stupid pills? I think a lot of our problems are related to the people running the NHL, back when I played. John Ziegler – President, Bob Writz – Chief Owner, Al (I'm a Crook) Eagleson – Player President

– they were all in bed together, and corruption was very evident later on because our salaries and pensions never grew, even though there was a merge of the W.H.A.

Eagleson and his band of thieves got us good. There are many players in my era that are hurting financially, and it is a shame that Eagleson never paid for his corruption. I could talk and tell you many stories about that problem, and era of the NHL – maybe later.

I must admit that given I am a hypocrite; because I would love to cash those checks those players get today. Needless to say, I have had many moments with my fellow colleagues where we have moaned and groaned about this problem. I am one of the fortunate ones, because I am very lucky – my health is pretty good, I have my own home in Haliburton on Eagle Lake. I say thank you every day for what I have. Many of my friends aren't as fortunate. We all try to help one another today with anything from gifts to money to advice.

I have a lot of great friends who have helped out many times over the past, whether financially, or through advice.

Next is our pension.

I guess we should be thankful that we have one at all, but to give you an idea of what the power of the NHL did to those of my era, I will speak of my good friend Andy Bathgate, who was not only a great player, but he is one of the classiest players I have met in my life. He always showed nothing but class.

He played for the New York Rangers at the same time that his friend Yogi Berra played for the New York Yankees. Yogi's pension is about \$150,000 U.S., and Andy's is about \$18,000 Canadian. They played about the same number of years.

Today, there is a great pension plan in place for the player. I don't know what the numbers are, but it is unbelievable to ours, just like the contracts.

The NHL players now have so much money in their slush fund, that there is talk they might contribute to ours in the future. Don't worry, I'm not betting or counting on it.

Please understand I am just explaining to you the way it is. I am sorry if it sounds like a lot of sour grapes.

Now – The Leafs...

I am just like so many people in Haliburton that are Leaf fans. We all have the Leafs in our blood. Nobody would like to see them win the cup more than me. Now that I am an armchair coach, I can give my two cents worth like everybody else. Yes I believe they can get to the Stanley Cup Finals with the team they have. Just look at last year's cup final – Anaheim vs New Jersey... The Leafs are every bit as good as those teams. Like so many teams in the NHL that have a chance to win the cup, they have to have great goal tending, which the Leafs have in Belfour. They have to have a great year from their superstars, and they have to have some players with career years. The most important factor is injuries. They can't afford key injuries like McGilkey has now. They have to have luck on their side. I think they also have to find a veteran defenseman and another proven goal scorer before the trade deadline.

I would also like to see Pat Quinn play Sundin more. I think he would play better with in more ice time. He has a tendency to look lazy playing every 4th shift.

I was no Mats Sundin, but here is a story about myself in Juniors in London. My coach Turk Broda (I enjoyed playing for) made me

Hockey Talk cont'd ... pg. 44 ...

When Strolling Through Haliburton - Stop To Check Out The Map

Many of you have probably noticed the huge cartoon map in front of the Haliburton IGA on Highland Street, but if you haven't, it's definitely something worth checking out.

The 4 x 8 foot map enclosed in glass was put up by IGA owner Bob Park roughly three weeks ago. The map was produced by Greenwood Productions from Bancroft. Copies of the map are available from many participating businesses that are illustrated on the map.

Of course, those maps are not the large 4 x 8, but rather poster size. Bob paid for the special large



map and enclosure. "When I saw the map, I thought of what my staff always gets asked - 'Where's the beer store - where's the liquor store - where's this and so on'. So I thought the map would be a great idea to help people new to town find things within our community. It should last quite a few years. We'll probably still get asked where the beer store is," Bob chuckled.

If you haven't noticed it, go check it out. It's located right

at the entrance of the IGA. You can view it safely from the sidewalk.

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Win With Sam The Advertising Man...

Now.... We have had the producers place some Sam the Advertising Men on the map. We are offering a limited edition, mounted map worth \$100 to the first correct entry drawn that can tell us how many Sam's there are hidden within the map. We'll give people some time with this one... We'll make the draw on Feb. 15th to give you a chance to find the Sams.

We'll throw in some secondary prizes of regular un-mounted maps to some runner ups. So get spotting - get entering and Win!!!

Send entries to:

The Highlands Communicator
Box 332, Wilberforce, Ont. K0L 3C0
or fax: (705) 448-1995

The Minden cartoon maps are also out - you'll find Sam hidden on these as well!! Tell us how many to win copies of the Minden cartoon map!!

Hockey Talk With Walt Cont'd....

...from pg. 44

play almost the whole period in a game at the Montreal Forum against the Jr. Canadians who could really skate. I was being lazy and went to get off the ice, and he told me to stay out there until he thought I was working hard enough. The exact words were "get out there you big lazy son of a bitch." Believe me, I got the message. I know Pat can't play Sundin the whole period, but for 9 million, I know I, and many other Leaf fans wish Pat would play him more. With the T.V. commercial time outs, he could be out there more. Go Leafs Go!!

I hope everyone has a Merry Christmas with their families and friends and a Happy New Year!!

HEALTH

Beauty
Wellness
Fitness

Get Your Flu Shot

*"We're due for an influenza pandemic"
says experts.*

Across Canada, officials have been trying to prepare for the next influenza pandemic that could affect millions worldwide.

Experts have warned for years that we're due for an influenza pandemic. The mortality rate for influenza is lower than for SARS, but the flu spreads more easily.

This is a tough year for flu in Canada, but this is not the pandemic. During a pandemic, a new strain of virus sweeps across large populations. No one has immunity.

There were three flu pandemics in the 20th century. The Spanish Flu of 1918 was the worst. It is thought to have killed about 50 million people worldwide.

The last pandemic was in 1968 and the next one is expected at any time, said influenza researcher Dr. Fred Aoki at the University of Manitoba.

The government of Alberta has completed a detailed plan of how the province would respond to the pandemic it expects will hit in the next five to 10 years.

The pandemic measures would go further than those needed for severe acute respiratory syndrome, such as cancelling sporting events and deciding who would be first in line for drugs and vaccines.

A vaccine is key. Health Canada has a contract with Shire Biologics in Quebec to supply Canada with flu vaccine ahead of other countries.

"If there was a pandemic it's possible that borders would close so it's important that Canada have its own supply," said Randall Chase, the company's president.

Aoki says antiviral drugs may prevent the flu from spreading during the few months it takes to make a new vaccine.

"Having drugs available for enough Canadians on short notice can't be achieved by anything short of having the necessary stockpile in our country, available for our use," says Aoki.

So far, Health Canada has not bought any of the drugs.

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Aqua Fit Classes For 55+ Sign Up Now!!

If you are 55+, and/or physically disabled 18+ and would like to keep fit while having fun, why not take part in the upcoming Sprint Aquafit 2004 classes.

While the classes begin in January, registration for the classes begins now to December 17th, the official last day of registration.

There are classes available, one on Mondays, beginning January 5 and on Wednesdays beginning January 7. Both classes are offered for 12 weeks and are held from 10 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Wigamog Inn pool.

Monday class instructor is Aileen Bruce and the Wednesday instructor is Lynn Higgs-Thompson. The cost for one day per week classes is \$100 with an activity card or \$128 without. You can attend both classes at double the rate. The fee for an activity card is \$15.

If you would like to join, or for more information, contact Ida at 457-2941.

Gifts are best when purchased locally!!



**Join us in recognizing our
community partners who contribute
so much to Health for Life:**

**Patti Scheffee, Alex Bell, Cindee St. Pierre,
Taylor Barton, Will Dougherty and Wade
Hawley** of the Haliburton SK8 Committee,
Steve Heming YMCA Camp Wanakita;



Camp Medeba for Climax Club;

Minden White Water and Boatwerks for Kayak Kamp;

Gail Grainger Canadian Cancer Society;

**Irv Sternberg, Melanie Howitt, Josh Wales, Danielle Clements,
Vanessa Davis and Sarah Britton** of the Smoking Stinks Committee;

Sue Ferren and Michelle Wolfe of Family Services of Haliburton County,

Ginny Hopkings of Taoist Tai Chi Society;

Kate Hall of ULinks, Get Movin' and HHT&TN;

Gwen Brice, Karen Hoover and Lindsay Elder for Hike Haliburton;

Laura Willis, Judy Phipps, Joyce Stephen and Debra Northey for
Nutrition and Food Action work;

Scott de Savoye and Gord Skinner of Delta Pinestone Resort;

Haliburton I.G.A and Dollo's I.G.A for School Nutrition Programs,

Minden Lion's Club for Archie Stouffer Breakfast Club,

Mike Burke, Terry Maher, Bob Cross, Fay Martin and Janet Morrison
of the Get Movin' Committee;

Sean Pennylegion, Lisa Moore, Rick Whittiker and Melanie Sedgewick
and **Andrew Barkley** of the O.P.P. for Cycling Skills Workshops;

Minden Curling Club for "Survivor Junior Bonspiel";

Minden Sneaker Day Committee - as always magnificent!

...and a special thank you to all of our other volunteers, and partner
organizations not mentioned here for working together to make
a healthy community!!!

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By Patricia Wright, Esthetician and Beauty
Therapist from the Magic Touch Salon

Q. Can medications affect the skin?

A. Yes. Following your Doctor's recommendation is your first priority, however, it is good to know that if you have side effects (as listed below) they are usually temporary.

Antihistamines, which are often taken for allergies, can cause excessive dehydration, which in turn can make the skin feel very dry and irritated. Also antihistamines can cause a reaction to sun exposure.

Antibiotics, and in particular tetracycline (which is often prescribed for acne) can cause increased sensitivity to sun exposure.

Steroids, especially cortisone, can in some cases, cause a certain type of "acne", which is in fact an inflammation of the hair follicles.

Medicines containing **bromides** and **iodides**, as found in many cold remedies can cause acne breakouts.

People with acne conditions should avoid vitamins that contain kelp, seaweed or iodine (potassium iodide).

If you have any questions, please forward them to
"Ask a Beauty Therapist" care of the Communicator.

STRESS BUSTERS

Quick Tips To Lower That Stress Level



Exercise... even for 5 minutes

Exercise, of course, is a great stress buster. But what about those days you just don't feel like exercising? Tell yourself you'll exercise for only five minutes. Even five minutes of exercise can make you feel more energized and once started, you may find it easier to continue.

Avoid Contagious "Dis-eases"

Just as you can catch a cold from others, you can "catch" someone else's attitude.

So Choose to spend the most time with people whose attitudes you want to catch. After all, enthusiasm is contagious too.



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A Foundation For The Health Of The Highlands

email: foundation@hhhs.on.ca • www.hhhs.on.ca

A Healthy Eye Opener: Will That Be Water or Coke?

Submitted by Michelle Pierson

This is really an eye opener... Water or Coke? We all know that water is important but I've never seen it written down like this before.

WATER

1. 75% of Americans are chronically dehydrated.
2. In 37% of Americans, the thirst mechanism is so weak that it is often mistaken for hunger.
3. Even MILD dehydration will slow down one's metabolism as much as 3%.
4. One glass of water will shut down midnight hunger pangs for almost 100% of the dieters studied in a University of Washington study.
5. Lack of water, the #1 trigger of daytime fatigue.
6. Preliminary research indicates that 8-10 glasses of water a day could significantly ease back and joint pain for up to 80% of sufferers.
7. A mere 2% drop in body water can trigger fuzzy short-term memory, trouble with basic math, and difficulty focusing on the computer screen or on a printed page.
8. Drinking 5 glasses of water daily decreases the risk of colon cancer by 45%, plus it can slash the risk of breast cancer by 79%, and one is 50% less likely to develop bladder cancer

And now for the properties of COKE:

1. In many states (in the USA) the highway patrol carries two gallons of coke in the truck to remove blood from the highway after a car accident.
2. You can put a T-bone steak in a bowl of coke and it will be gone in two days.
3. To clean a toilet: Pour a can of Coca-Cola into the toilet bowl and let the "real thing" sit for one hour, then flush clean. The citric acid in Coke removes stains from vitreous China.

4. To remove rust spots from chrome car bumpers: Rub the bumper with a crumpled-up piece of Reynolds Wrap aluminum foil dipped in Coca-Cola.
 5. To clean corrosion from car battery terminals: Pour a can of Coca-Cola over the terminals to bubble away the corrosion
 6. To loosen a rusted bolt: Applying a cloth soaked in Coca-Cola to the rusted bolt for several minutes
 7. To bake a moist ham: Empty a can of Coca-Cola into the baking pan, wrap the ham in aluminum foil, and bake. Thirty minutes before the ham is finished, remove the foil, allowing the drippings to mix with the Coke for a sumptuous brown gravy
 8. To remove grease from clothes: Empty a can of coke into a load of greasy clothes, add detergent, and run through a regular cycle. The Coca-Cola will help loosen grease stains
 9. It will also clean road haze from your windshield
- For Your Info:

1. The active ingredient in Coke is phosphoric acid. Its pH is 2.8. It will dissolve a nail in about 4 days. Phosphoric acid also leaches calcium from bones and is a major contributor to the rising increase in osteoporosis
 2. To carry Coca-Cola syrup (the concentrate) the commercial truck must use the Hazardous material placards reserved for Highly corrosive materials
 3. The distributors of coke have been using it to clean the engines of their trucks for about 20 years!
- Now the question is, would you like a coke or a glass of water?

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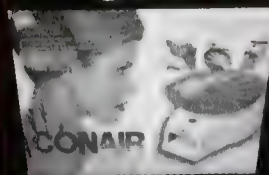
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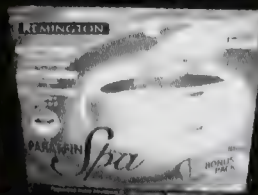
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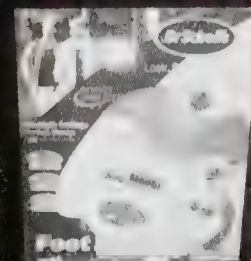
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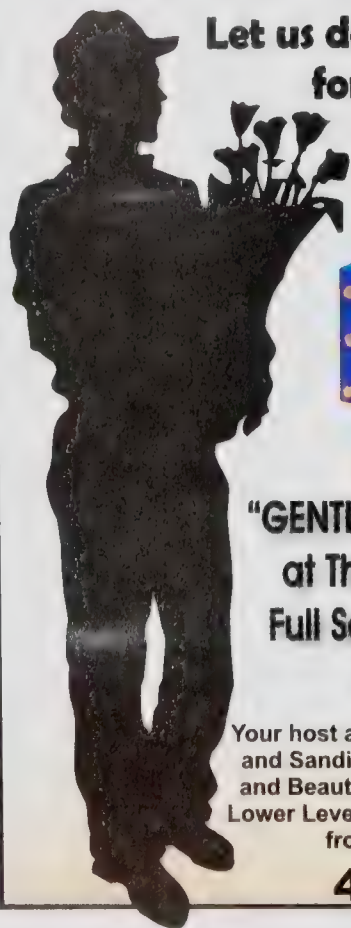


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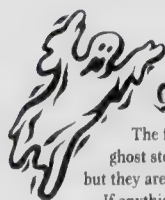
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457-5043



GHOST STORIES

The following is a fun little column for those who like ghost stories... Whether these are true or not we don't know, but they are stories told by those who believe they saw real ghosts!! If anything, they do make for interesting little stories... enjoy...



The Ghost of Freddy Jackson

This intriguing photo, taken in 1919, was first published in 1975 by Sir Victor Goddard, a retired R.A.F. officer. The photo is a group portrait of Goddard's squadron, which had served in World War I aboard the *HMS Daedalus*. (Click the photo at left to see the entire photograph.) An extra ghostly face appears in the photo. In back of the airman positioned on the top row, fourth from the left, can clearly be seen the face of another man. It is said to be the face of Freddy Jackson, an air mechanic who had been accidentally killed by an airplane propeller two days earlier. His funeral had taken place on the day this photograph was snapped.

Members of the squadron easily recognized the face as Jackson's. It has been suggested that Jackson, unaware of his death, decided to show up for the group photo.

Interesting side note: In 1935, Sir Victor Goddard, now a Wing Commander, had another brush with the unexplained. While on a flight from Edinburgh, Scotland to his home base in Andover, England, he encountered a strange storm that seemed to transport him through time into the future.

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Spot The Differences

This one is a bit more difficult than some of the past puzzles. There are actually 10 differences as you can see, there's quite a bit to look at... so good luck and enjoy..

What on tree is black, ornament on tree from red to black, brick
on fireplace is black, mantle is gone, smoke from fire missing
difficult to see, when fire log missing is missing, knot in mantle
part of ribbon on gift in stocking is missing, knot in mantle
is gone, heel on stocking is gone



Why do toasters always have a setting that burns the toast to a horrible crisp, which no decent human being would eat?

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Home Support wishes you a Merry Christmas and Thanks You for Your Continued Support!

Living Longer Is Not Uncommon Today

In the early 1900's, if a person reached the age of 65 he/she was considered lucky. The odds were that they might live another 12 years or so. Today it is not uncommon to reach 65 or even live another 17 years past that.

Many of us will remain healthy and independent for most of our senior years. But for others, this may not be so true. As we get older especially once we hit our eighties, the chances increase considerably that we will face health problems or frailty and need assistance with various aspects of daily living.

Older persons who need some care or help with daily activities do not necessarily need to be placed in a nursing home. In the past, a nursing home may have been the only option for families who could not adequately provide care to an ill or disabled elderly relative. Today however, families have a number of alternatives to nursing home care that allow persons in need of medical or other support services to remain in their homes with their family and friends.

Home Support provides a variety of services to help individuals live independently in their homes and communities and preserve their quality of life. In-home support and community services are a cost-effective alternative to hospital stays.

The purpose of Haliburton County Home Support Services is to enable seniors (55+) and/or physically disabled (18+) to remain independent in their own homes for a longer period. To continue to co-operate with others in the County to create an awareness of client needs and enhance the quality of their life.

Home Support has been serving the residents of Haliburton County for over 23 years.

Home Support has over 130 registered volunteers who provide support services to the residents of the County.

Home Support would not be able to provide the quality of care it currently provides to its clients, without the generous support of individuals through donations, fundraising activities and planned giving.



Church Events

Lochlin United Church

Annual Community "Old Fashion Carol Sing" – December 10th – 7:30 p.m.

Refreshments following. Hot cider and Christmas Goodies. Donations to the food bank gratefully accepted. Church Road off County Rd. 1 in Lochlin.

St. George's Anglican Church

Christmas Festival of Readings and Carols – Thursday, December 11 – 7:30 p.m. - St. George's Canata Choir – Readings from "Encounters at Bethlehem" by Andersersen. Reserved seating tickets \$5.00 from Master's Book Store, Perfect Prints, or the Church Office (457-2074), or at the door. Proceeds to benefit the 4C's food bank.

Sunday School Christmas Pageant – Sunday, December 14 – 9:30 a.m. - "Eye Witness News" – Everyone welcome to attend.

Harcourt Community Chapel

Ladies Christmas Party Victorian Tea - Speaker Mrs. Sue Markham - Thursday, December 4th at 7 p.m. All ladies welcome to attend.

Christmas Concert featuring our youth and children. Saturday, December 14th - 7 p.m.

Candlelight Carol Service - Sunday, December 21 - 7 p.m. Everyone Welcome to attend.

Wilberforce United Church

Ecumenical Community Carol Service - December 14.

Contact Myrtle Weedmark at 448-2761 for details and time.

SERVICE DIRECTORY FEATURE

Mark Evans Plumbing



Leaky pipes? The sound of the drip, drip, drip keeping you awake at night? Why suffer? Give Mark Evans at Mark Evans Plumbing a call!

Mark and his family moved to the Wilberforce area last July from Kitchener where Mark had been in the plumbing business for 20 years. Fully licensed and insured, Mark is looking forward to taking care of all your plumbing needs as well as meeting more of his neighbours in the Highlands. "Although I've always enjoyed my line of work, I'm enjoying it much more since I've come here. Each job I do here is a lot more personable than what I've been used to and the people here are great," says Mark.

Mark and his wife Cheryl, spent many years camping in Algonquin Park and grew to love this area and knew they'd eventually like to live here. Mark explains, "We figured that this was a good time to find a house here and begin establishing my business as this area is starting to grow pretty quickly. When I found our house on the Internet, we knew it was just what we wanted and the time was right. We're really happy to be here and enjoying every minute of it."

Mark's expertise in plumbing covers a wide field, from residential, industrial, and commercial to the opening and closing of cottages. For all your plumbing needs, give Mark a call at 448-9132 and when he shows up at your door, you'll recognize him by the big grin!

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Brain Teaser of the Month



Here's a real cool thing to try. I gave it a try and definatley found this one to be worthy of a "wow.... no way.. that is too cool.."



Hole in the Hand Illusion

Create a hole in your hand by holding a tube up to your eye. Look at something 15 feet away with both eyes - one looking through the tube. You will see the object through a round hole in the palm of your hand.

For an interesting variation, place a coin in the centre of your palm and it will appear to float.

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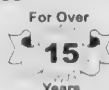
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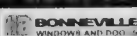
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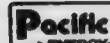
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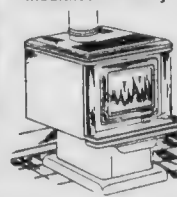


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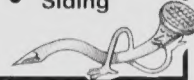


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Spot Sam The Advertising Man for your Chance to Win \$50!

How would you like to win \$50 cash? Well it's easy with the Communicator!

Just read all the ads and keep an eye out for Sam – The advertising man. We will be hiding a few Sams in various ads throughout the publication, so look for more than one. Once you think you have found all the Sams you can, write down how many you spotted, in what ads, the publication date, your name, address and telephone number, and mail them, email them or fax them to the Highlands Communicator.

The first correct answer pulled from entries received wins \$50! It's that easy and it's fun too!

There were 17 sams in the last issue. They were hidden in the following ads; Teddy Time, Perfect Prints, Minden Subaru, Francis Fuels, Storm Towing, Lady Esther Esthetics, Emmerson Lumber, Out of Time, Sears Haliburton, North Shore Lawn and Garden, Northland Marina, Masters Bookstore, Mac d's Meats, Woody's restaurant, Sears Floor, churko electric, donaldson electric.

**The winner of last month's Spot Sam contest is
Bernice Martin of Minden**

Hello, I'm Sam
the Advertising
Man. Spot me for
your chance to
WIN \$50.00
Just read how!



**The Winner of Dinner for Two at Village chalet &
Cross Roads is: Arla Pollard of RR#1 Minden**

Minden Hills Seeking Volunteers To Sit on Local Committees

The township of Minden Hills is seeking volunteers to sit on some local committees. Positions are available on: The Agnes Jamieson Gallery Committee, the Minden Hills Museum, The Minden Library Committee, The Cemetery Board, The Canada Day Committee, Timbersport Committee, The Committee of Adjustment, and the Irondale Community Facilities Advisory Committee.

Those interested would serve on these committees for the 2004, 2005 and 2006 calendar years.

If you are interested in providing hands-on assistance to any of the mentioned committees, please reply in writing prior to December 5th to the Township of Minden Hills, Box 359, Minden, Ont. K0M 2K0

Send your letter attention Twyla Nicholson – the Deputy Clerk.



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4678**

Who Dun-it answer

As Minden stood by the fence furrow and looked at the mountain to the north, the barn was to his left. The barn was therefore west of the furrow. Had Sam approached John from the direction of the barn that morning, as John stated, Sam's shadow would have been cast back toward the barn, not toward John. John was therefore lying when he said that Sam's shadow warned him of an attack.

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Not looking forward to the long cold winter?

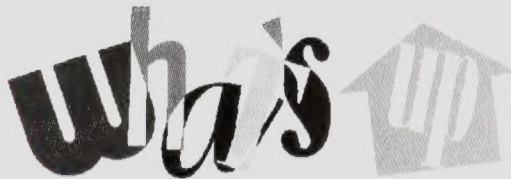
Come out of hibernation and enrol at the Highlands Community Learning Centre, where you can stimulate your mind, meet new people and finally figure out how to operate and download pictures from your digital camera.

The Learning Centre offers credit courses in Accounting, Computers, Co-operative Education, English, History, Geography and Math at specified times during the year for the low, one-time, yearly price of \$25. Simply Accounting and English are currently being offered and Desktop Publishing and Mathematics will begin on February 1, 2004.

Phone Kathy Hicks at 457-4562 to learn more about the school and its program offerings.

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Your monthly guide to community events in the area.

**Deadline
for our next
issue is
Dec.10th**

**December School Christmas Concerts:
See page 35**

December 4

Carol sing at Wee Kirk. See pg. 39

December 6

* Minden Christmas Craft Sale. See pg. 6 for details.

* Picture with Santa in Carnarvon - Fundraiser for Stanhope Fire Dept. See pg. 28 for details.

* Christmas Craft Sale in Wilberforce. See pg. 29 for details.

* Wildlife Supper at Wilberforce Legion. See pg. 30.

December 14

* Stanta Clause Parade in Wilberforce. See pg. 29 for details.

* Harcourt Church Christmas Concert. See pg. 30

December 17

Highlands Wind Symphony 5th Annual Christmas Concert.
See pg. 39

**Watch for our special Christmas Edition
coming to you on December 18th!!
It's filled with lots of great Christmas treats!!**

**If you would like your Christmas Greeting in
this edition that is mailed free to everyone in
the Highlands, then call Brett at 448-1847.
What a great way to say Merry Christmas to
one and all!!**

Christmas In Dorset

Dorset Lions Club Children's Christmas Party

Santa will be the star attraction at this exciting event being held Saturday December 6 from 1 - 3 p.m. A magic show, and Christmas Sing-A-Long is part of the great things taking place... and, of course, lets not forget Santa himself who will be making an appearance. Parent's are asked to please bring one wrapped gift for your child to be presented by Santa. Hot dogs, pop, chips, Tim-Bits and coffee will be provided. Everyone is welcome to join in the fun!!

Community Christmas Music Evening featuring Muskoka Men of Song.

If you enjoy Christmas music then you might want to head to Dorset on December 13 for the Dorset Community Christmas Music Evening feature music by the Muskoka Men of Song.

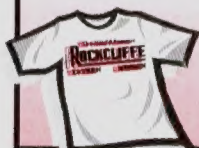
Hosted by St. Mary Magdalene's Anglican Church in Dorset, this event begins at 7:30 p.m. Please call Patricia at 766-0267 for more information or to reserve tickets.

Community Kitchen

Want to learn to make delicious Christmas Cookies? Then you will want to attend the Dorset Community Kitchen on Thursday, December 18 starting at 9 a.m. If you are interested in participating, please call 766-9968 by December 10th.

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\$169,900.00



14 plus acres, nicely wooded with 1200 ft. of Redstone river frontage, total privacy. Every ones dream property. 1-3 bedroom home, custom cabinetry, wood floors, cathedral ceilings with skylights. Full walkout lower level. Oil fired water heat including the 20x40 work shop. Carport 22 x 24 and 2 other covered storage areas. Enjoy the seasons from a large gazebo overlooking the river. All this and more for only

\$239,000



Newly renovated updated home in the town of Haliburton. Bright open kitchen, low maintenance exterior. Screened porch on the front with lighted walkway and deck out the back over looking the beautiful back yard. Walk to town for all amenities.

\$89,900.00



Kushog Lake \$295,000.00

Over 1/2 acre on Kushog Lake 2100 sq ft cottage/ home, full w/o lower level. Lge LR, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Suitable for Bed and Breakfast, family cottage. Has C zoning if desired to run as a marina and has one boat shed that could be leased out or use yourself. Also avail is a 7.79 acre property across the road with 2 boat storage sheds. Asking \$69,000.00 (Cottage must sell first)

Purchase as a package for \$329,000.00

Private Retreat
Private well treed lot with 114' frontage on Little Kennisis Lake with a 3 bedroom cottage. This open concept cottage has an oak kitchen, wood cathedral ceiling and walls in the living room with fireplace. This beautiful place also has 4 pc bath and 2 pc ensuite, main floor laundry all this on a full unfinished basement. To add to all of the other attractions is a large deck and screened in porch. **\$349,000.00**



Ideal cottage for 2 families on Little Kennisis. Pine cathedral ceiling and wall in the open concept living room and kitchen area. Hardwood floors in the entrance nook and kitchen. 2 baths, 3 bedrooms and den/office. Every space is used with lots of storage cupboards. Lots of room for entertaining on the lower level walkout with patio. Screened in porch off the living room, level to slightly sloping lake front. Great swimming, wade in or dive off the dock. Large deck at lake for enjoying the sun with a separate dock for swimming and boating.

\$364,900



Hidden from the road and neighbours, well maintained property on Kennisis Lake. 3 bdrn cottage fully winterized & also a cabin. All wood interior, cathedral ceilings, carpet through out. Full wall fireplace, and electric baseboard. Lge DR & kitchen for entertaining. Deck on 2 sides gives lot of space to sun or entertain. Deck and dock at waters edge. Southern exp. with great view of Kennisis Lake.

\$439,000.00



Cozy 3 bedroom home on the Burnt River. Pine kitchen, open LR/DR, main floor BDR and 2 BDR's upstairs. 4pc and 2 pc baths. Family room in basement lined with pine. Wired for generator backup. Forced air propane furnace. Attached 2 car garage and separate garage with area for 2 level guest cabin or work shop. Small pond on this 11 plus acre very private retreat. Bonus all this on 800 ft of the Burnt River. Take your canoe and go exploring.

\$179,000.00

Little Kennisis
Very unique 2 bedroom & guest quarters chalet style cottage tucked away in this well treed property. Loft bedroom overlooking LR and free standing fireplace. Appealing lakefront with deck and large dock. Wonderful view. Adjacent lot is available for 159,000.00. Cottage must sell first. Put the 2 together as a package and save \$\$\$\$ giving you 200 ft frontage and absolute privacy. This cottage property is a must see at **\$369,000. & \$159,000.00 for the lot.**



Well maintained 3 bedroom Viceroy cottage on Little Kennisis. Treed for privacy, fire pit, large deck at cottage for BBQ's and entertaining. Newer renovations include kitchen, flooring, pine walls in living room, steel roof and septic.

\$249,000.00



Vacant Waterfront Lots

Ideal building lot, 2 acres with 250 ft frontage on Kennisis Lake with big lake view. Area of prestiges cottages. Well treed and private. Sand and rock shore and deep water. Year round road with hydro at road. **Asking \$269,000.00**

West Guilford building lot. Just off County Rd 6 and Guilford Court. Nicely treed. Clear only what you want, park like setting. In area of skiing, golfing and snowmobile trails. Walking distance to swimming, boating on 3 lake chain, school bus route, grocery store and restaurants. Excellent value and in area of year round homes. **\$8,900.00**

Little Kennisis - 265 ft frontage- Beautiful Sunset
Privacy plus with this 265 ft frontage partial point level building lot on Little Kennisis Lake. Save \$\$\$\$\$\$ with the driveway already installed, lot cleared, hydro and telephone on site. 2 docks. Enjoy sunsets from the dock area. Deep water and sandy area for little tykes. Easy building site ready to go. **\$195,000.00**